

**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:**

Thursday, 13 December 2012

Press clips are produced Monday through Friday.
Any omission, comment or suggestion, please contact
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The Principal Defender of the Special Court for Sierra Leone Claire Carlton-Hanciles has been appointed to the Advisory Board of the International Center for Transitional Justice (ICTJ)

Mrs Carlton-Hanciles is the first Sierra Leonean to Her appointment which was made public today carries the following citations:

Advisory Board

Mrs. Carlton-Hanciles is currently the Principal Defender, The Special Court for Sierra Leone (SCSL). Appointed in 2009, she is the first Sierra Leonean to hold this position. She first joined the Special Court in 2003 as Legal Officer/Duty Counsel in the Office of the Principal Defender. Mrs. Carlton-Hanciles has many years of leadership experience in Sierra Leonean civil society on issues related to human rights and transitional justice.

She is a member of the Sierra Leone Bar Association and the Lawyers Committee for Human Rights (Sierra Leone). She also serves as Legal Adviser to the Sierra Leone Women's Forum and the Planned Par-



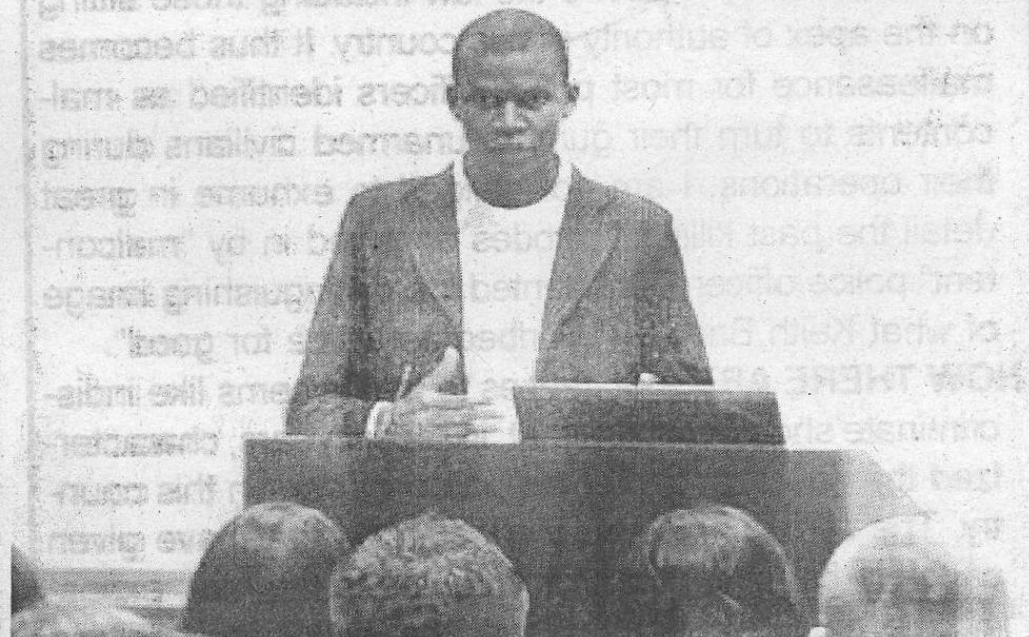
enthood Association of Sierra Leone and brings with her extensive experience in issues relating to sexual and gender-based violence. Mrs. Carlton-Hanciles holds a double bachelor's degree from the University of Sierra Leone in Arts

and Law, and in 1997, was called to the Bar as a Barrister and Solicitor. Mrs. Carlton-Hanciles is also currently a Fellow of the Sierra Leone Institute of International Law.

The Exclusive

Thursday, 13 December 2012

Sierra Leonean student shares experiences in U.S



Dauda Collier

Dauda Collier of Somerset, a student in Raritan Valley Community College's (RVCC) nursing program, recently addressed high school students as part of the college's Learning Through Experience program, held Friday, Nov. 30.

Collier recalled his experiences as a 16-year-old Kamajor in war-torn Sierra Leone, fighting as part of the Civil Defense Forces. It was the first time Collier had ever spoken publicly about his experiences. Now 32, Collier immigrated to the U.S. in 2009.

Approximately 400 students from public and Catholic high schools throughout New Jersey participated in Learning Through Experience, an annual program sponsored by the college's Institute for Holocaust and Genocide Studies. The

program also featured presentations by Holocaust survivors and a film screening and discussion with Adam Mazo, producer of the documentary "Coexist."

For additional information about the Institute for Holocaust and Genocide Studies or Learning Through Experience, contact Peppy Margolis at pmargoli@raritanval.edu or 908-526-1200, ext. 8524.

RVCC's main campus is located at 118 Lamington Road in Branchburg. Serving Somerset and Hunterdon County residents for over 40 years, the college offers more than 90 associate degrees and certificates. RVCC @ Bridgewater, located at 14 Vogt Drive, offers technical, trade, credit and non-credit courses. For further information, visit raritanval.edu.

Security Council extends sanctions on Liberia for another year



Former Liberian President Charles Taylor (rear) awaiting verdict on April 26, 2012. UN Photo/SCSL/AP Pool/Peter DeJong

12 December 2012 – The Security Council today extended the sanctions imposed on Liberia in connection with the country’s civil war as well as the panel of experts tasked with monitoring compliance with the measures.

In a unanimously adopted resolution, the Council noted “with serious concern” the lack of progress in implementing the financial measures imposed by a 2004 resolution demanding that all assets of former president Charles Taylor, family members and associates be frozen to prevent them from obstructing the restoration of peace in Liberia and the region.

The Council demanded that the Liberian Government “make all necessary efforts to fulfill its obligations.”

The 15-member body also renewed the measures on travel and arms, and the mandate of the panel of experts, for another 12 months, beginning today.

The panel was first appointed by Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in July 2007 to renew investigations on whether the sanctions were being enforced in the light of allegations that Mr. Taylor still had access to considerable wealth in the country.

Mr. Taylor was sentenced in May by the Special Court for Sierra Leone (SCSL) to 50 years in prison for planning and for aiding and abetting crimes committed by Sierra Leonean rebel forces during that country’s decade-long civil war.

In today’s resolution, the Council called on all States and the Liberian Government to cooperate fully with the panel, which is tasked with, among other things, conducting two follow-up assessment missions to Liberia and neighbouring States to

investigate and compile a mid-term and a final report on the implementation, and any violations, of the sanctions.

It also called on the Liberian Government to complete implementation of the recommendations of the 2009 review team for the Kimberley Process, a framework for certifying diamonds as not part of the illicit trade that could fuel conflict, and to improve transparent governance of all natural resources.

UN News

Wednesday, 12 December 2012

Security Council extends terms of judges serving on UN Rwanda genocide tribunal



Security Council in session. UN Photo/Ryan Brown

The Security Council today extended the term of office of five judges serving with the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) to facilitate the completion of the court's work.

In a unanimously adopted resolution, the 15-member body extended the terms of the following permanent judges until 31 December 2014 or until the completion of the cases to which they are assigned: Mehmet Güney of Turkey, Khalida Rachid Khan of Pakistan, Arlette Ramaroson of Madagascar, Bakhtiyar Tuzmukhamedov of Russia, and Andrésia Vaz of Senegal.

Based in Arusha, Tanzania, the ICTR was set up after the Rwandan genocide, when at least 800,000 ethnic Tutsis and politically moderate Hutus were killed during a span of three months beginning in April 1994.

The Council has urged both the ICTR and the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) to conclude their work by the end of 2014.

It set up the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals (IRMCT) in December 2010 and mandated it to take over and finish the remaining tasks of the two tribunals when they are closed after their mandates expire. The ICTR branch of the Residual Mechanism began its functions on 1 July, while the branch for ICTY will start on 1 July 2013.

In today's resolution, the Council requested updates on the transition of functions of the ICTR to the Residual Mechanism, and also urged all States to provide all needed assistance to the tribunal, particularly in relation to the arrest of remaining fugitives.

International Criminal Court judges confirm jurisdiction in case against former Ivorian president

Former president of Côte d'Ivoire Laurent Gbagbo (centre) makes his initial appearance at the International Criminal Court in The Hague, Netherlands on 5 December 2011. Photo: ICC-CPI/AP Photo/Peter Dejong

Appeals judges at the International Criminal Court (ICC) today unanimously dismissed an argument on its jurisdiction presented by defence lawyers for former Ivorian president Laurent Gbagbo, who is currently facing trial there on charges of crimes against humanity.

The lawyers had questioned Mr. Gbagbo's prosecution by the ICC, arguing that Cote d'Ivoire is not formally a state party to the Rome Statute, the court's founding treaty, according to an ICC news release. However, the court's Appeals Chamber dismissed the appeal and confirmed an earlier decision of the Pre-Trial Chamber I.

In August, the Pre-Trial Chamber had declined to grant Mr Gbagbo's request to find that the Court would lack jurisdiction over the post-2010 election period and events on which the warrant of arrest and the charges laid against him are based.

Côte d'Ivoire was rocked by a post-election crisis in late 2010, when Alassane Ouattara won a disputed presidential run-off election that led to months of deadly violence when Mr. Gbagbo – the runner-up and incumbent – refused to step down. He was later captured by security forces and transported to The Hague in the Netherlands to face trial at the ICC.

Mr. Gbagbo allegedly bears individual criminal responsibility, as an indirect co-perpetrator, for four counts of crimes against humanity, namely murder, rape and other sexual violence, persecution and other

inhuman acts, allegedly committed during the post-electoral violence in Côte d'Ivoire between 16 December 2010 and 12 April 2011.

The former president's defence lawyers had alleged that Côte d'Ivoire, while not a State Party to the Rome Statute, had accepted the ICC's jurisdiction in a declaration made on 18 April 2003 only in relation to the events in 2002 and 2003, and not in relation to future crimes.

According to the ICC release, the appeals judges noted that under the terms of the Rome Statute, a State may accept the jurisdiction of the Court generally, and could not find a "temporal limitation" in the 2003 declaration.

The defence lawyers also asked for a stay of proceedings because of alleged violations of Mr. Gbagbo's fundamental rights during his detention in Côte d'Ivoire, prior to his transfer to the ICC. That request was also dismissed by the judges, citing procedural reasons.

The ICC is the first permanent, treaty-based, international criminal court established to help end impunity for the perpetrators of the most serious crimes of concern to the international community, namely war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide.

UN News

Wednesday, 12 December 2012

UN war crimes tribunal sentences Bosnia Serb intelligence chief over Srebrenica and Zepa



Courtroom 1 of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY). Photo: ICTY

A United Nations war crimes tribunal today sentenced a former Bosnian Serb military chief to life imprisonment after convicting him of genocide and other crimes linked in part to the murders of Bosnian Muslim men and boys at Srebrenica in 1995.

Zdravko Tolimir, 64, had been the former Assistant Commander and intelligence chief of the Bosnian Serb Army, which served the self-proclaimed Serbian Republic in the east of the internationally recognized territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina following that country's break with the former Yugoslavia.

The International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY), which sits in The Hague, found him guilty of taking part in two 1995 joint criminal enterprises (JCEs), one being what quickly became known in the media as the 'Srebrenica massacre,' and the other involving the removal and deportation of Bosnian Muslims from both Srebrenica and Zepa, a second enclave in the breakaway Serbian Republic, according to an ICTY news release.

ICTY said a majority of a three-judge panel of the tribunal convicted Mr. Tolimir of genocide, conspiracy to commit genocide, murder as a violation of the laws or customs of war, as well as extermination, persecutions, inhumane acts through forcible transfer and murder as crimes against humanity. He was found not guilty of the crime of deportation as a crime against humanity.

According to the ICTY release, the court majority ruled that the Serbian Republic had decided by 1992 to remove the Bosnian Muslim population from eastern Bosnia and Herzegovina, and found that Mr. Tolimir participated in the JCEs that aimed to fulfil the policy.

The court majority also found that the “combined effect of the forcible removal and murder operation had a devastating effect on the physical survival of the Bosnian Muslim population of Eastern Bosnia and Herzegovina,” adding it was “satisfied that these operations were aimed at destroying this population.”

The number of Muslim men killed from Srebrenica had approached 6,000 “at a minimum,” according to the court majority, ICTY noted.

“The suffering these men went through in the moments leading up to their deaths must have been unbearable,” the ICTY release quoted the court majority as saying. “On many occasions, those who were waiting to be shot saw others before them executed.”

Between 30,000 and 35,000 women and children were forcibly removed from both Srebrenica and Zepa, according to the court majority, which added that the victims’ “extreme suffering” had rendered them unable to live a “normal and constructive life to this day,” the ICTY release stated.

“Removing the Bosnian Muslim civilian population from Zepa, demolishing their homes and the mosque, and killing three of the most prominent local leaders was carried out to ensure that the Bosnian Muslim population of this enclave would not be able to reconstitute itself,” the ICTY release added, citing the court majority.

Indicted in 2005, Mr. Tolimir spent two years on the run before his arrest in Serbia and transfer to The Hague in 2007. His trial began in February 2010.

The trial of Mr. Tolimir has been among 12 ICTY proceedings dealing with a range of crimes committed by the Bosnian Serb forces against Bosnian Muslims during and after the July 1995 fall of Srebrenica and Zepa, which were at the time UN protected zones. Six of the cases have been completed.

Established in 1993 by the UN Security Council, ICTY has to date indicted 161 people for serious violations of humanitarian law committed on the territory of the former Yugoslavia between 1991 and 2001. Proceedings against 130 people have been concluded.