

**‘SPECIAL COURT FOR SIERRA LEONE  
PRESS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE**



Children from International D.O.V.E. orphanage at Regent visited the Special Court on Wednesday.

**PRESS CLIPPINGS**

**Enclosed are clippings of local and international press on the Special Court and related issues obtained by the Press and Public Affairs Office  
as at:**

Thursday, 13 July 2006

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

Thursday, 13 July 2006

[Similar articles, based on an ICRC press release, appeared in several local newspapers.]

## **ICRC holds second inter-college Moot Court Competition on International Humanitarian Law in Sierra Leone**

Students from various constituent colleges in Sierra Leone will on the 8<sup>th</sup> of August, 2006, be on stage at the national level to participate in a Moot Court competition on the application of International Humanitarian Law (IHL). For the first time, the competition is to be opened to all colleges in the country.

Five teams of three students have been pre-selected based on their knowledge of IHL to participate at this competition. Whilst the legal case they will work on is purely fictional, they will face a panel of experts in a real court setting in the Special Court for Sierra Leone.

The jury will be comprised of the Head of the ICRC Delegation in Freetown, the legal advisor of the Sierra Leone Red Cross Society, a Judge from the Special Court for Sierra Leone, one representative of the Women Lawyers Association and the legal Advisor of the Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces (RSLAF). The students will be judged on their knowledge of IHL and public international law, their capacity to use the instruments of law to argue their case, their teamwork and the quality of their oral expression.

The competition will take place in the Special Court for Sierra Leone in the afternoon of 8<sup>th</sup> August 2006. The ICRC, Special Court and Sierra Leonean experts in IHL will coach and train the three students of the winning team, whom ICRC will sponsor to represent Sierra Leone and their university in the international stage of the competition in Arusha (Tanzania) in November 2006.

The ICRC is organizing this event within the framework of its mandate to support the efforts of States in disseminating International Humanitarian Law.

### **The fifteen students are:**

Abdul Karim Koroma (Jr), Abdul Rahman Kamara, Nelson Sheku Fofanah, Tejan Ahmed Jah, Francis Ben Kaifala, Ibrahim S. Koroma – Fourah Bay College

Momoh Thomas Bockarie, Milicint Gbenjen, Joseph Sylvester Kormoi – Njala University College

Samuel Edy Teh, Edward Adikalie Bolor Turay and Patrick J Amara – Milton Margai College of Education and Techonoly

Lamin M Kaitibi, Morie A. Kallon, and Alfred Dassama – Eastern Polytechnic.

# WATER SCARCITY IS A SECURITY THREAT

Diplomats and Sierra Leoneans concerned about the present water scarcity in Freetown have declared the non-availability of water as a security threat that must be tackled very firmly before it gets out of hand.

This concern has been raised in Freetown in the wake of information circulated that the quantity of water available to the Guma Valley Water Company can last only for at most ten days, especially if more precipitation does not take place. Rainfall this year has been

disastrously low but that in itself has been seen by many observers as a fac-

tor that should not stop the government from undertaking ef-

fective managerial decisions to combat a poten-  
*Cont. back page*

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## **WATER SCARCITY**

tial disaster.

Many observers in Freetown have expressed grave concern that information relating to the state of water is very scanty if not totally poor as members of the public have no knowledge about what modalities government is putting in place to address the water scarcity problem.

Members of the diplomatic community up to yesterday expected the Office of National Security to circulate a strategy to tackle the water problem.

A diplomat said yesterday, "if the Office of Na-

tional Security does not put in place modalities that can assure members of the public that the water problem is being addressed seriously, then of course, some diplomatic missions may have to ask some of their non essential personnel to temporarily leave the country until the water situation comes to normal."

The diplomat also complained that the senior administrative cadre in the government does not seem to be able to communicate effectively on the water issue with members of the public adding, "President

Kabbah is out of the country and the Vice President has not addressed the people of the country on the issue leaving everybody to grope in the dark and this is most unacceptable, especially in the case where the Minister of Energy and Power has lost total ability to run the two arms of the Ministry he is supposed to supervise. Clearly, if the government does not see this sharp water scarcity as a security problem, members of the diplomatic community see it as a serious problem which should not be politicized."

Exclusive

Thursday, 13 July 2006

Satire

# Black Scorpion opens a can of worms...

## "Maskita is alive!"

Sensational Scotland Yard-trained detective Black Scorpion has vehemently denied that notorious rebel commando (Basic) Gen. Annopheles Maskita is dead. "He is alive! Maskita is alive! I saw him," Scorpion was hysterical while speaking to us via satellite phone yesterday.

The freelance detective, who is on a wild hunt for fugitive Special Court indictee Johnny Paul Koroma, said he saw Maskita live along our borders with Guinea and Liberia.

"I saw him during one of the raids for cattle into border-line villages. He was in command of a large army of mosquitoes.

"I could have captured him alive but he was not my target. My target was Johnny Paul," Scorpion said. In mid 2003 GOSL and the Special Court for Sierra Leone announced that commander of the mosquito rebels, (Basic) Gen. Annopheles Maskita had been assassinated in neighboring Liberia and his followers had fled to the Ivory Coast.

This was further confirmed when the supposed corpse of the notorious mosquito commando was extradited and an autopsy conducted by the Special Court.

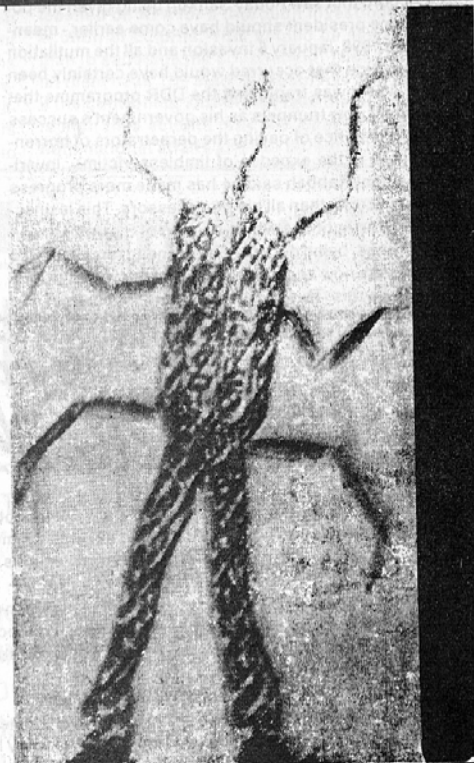
At a seminar following the autopsy, then Special

**"I could have captured him alive but he was not my target. My target was Johnny Paul"**

Court Chief Prosecutor David Crane asserted that Gen. Maskita was "factually and scientifically dead". However, this latest claim by Scorpion has opened the heavy cover of what had seemed to be a closed book.

Basic Gen. Annopheles Maskita, perhaps the most feared rebel commando in the West African sub-region, was star of three horrible blockbusters- 'Operation No Living Thing', 'Invasion Freetown- (January 1999)' and 'No Bush Shaking'.

West Africa film producers once described Maskita (who does all his stunts himself) as a multi-talented actor.



*A satellite snap shot of Maskita taken by Scorpion at the border with Guinea*

# Teacher Lemp Lemp



By Ahmed Sahid Nasralla (De Monk)

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This work of fiction was inspired by actual events, but is otherwise the product of the writer's imagination. This column is strictly for entertainment purposes and does not represent the editorial policy of *The Exclusive*.



Voice of America  
Wednesday, 12 July 2006

## Donors Conference Opens in Liberia

By Joe De Capua

In Liberia, a two-day donors conference got underway Wednesday, aimed at finding ways to rebuild the country after its long civil war. The meeting includes representatives from USAID, the EU, World Bank, IMF and the African Development Bank. The donors meeting follows the release of President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf's budget calling for increased spending for education, health and social services.



John Stremlau

Among those following developments is Dr. John Stremlau, associate executive director for peace programs at the Carter Center. The Carter Center helped in Liberia's election process. It's now working to help rebuild areas outside of the capital, Monrovia. From the southern US city of Atlanta, Georgia, Stremlau spoke to VOA English to Africa Service reporter Joe De Capua about aid to Liberia.

"It's not so much the money that matters, it's getting engaged with Liberia and sustaining that engagement. Liberia needs everything and the donors and the Liberians have to work out a formula," he says.

Asked whether the image of former president Charles Taylor, who's awaiting a war crimes trial, could affect international assistance, Stremlau says, "It's more than the image actually. There are a lot of Taylorites in the legislature. You know, we tend to forget that Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Liberia's last best hope to paraphrase (former US president) Abraham Lincoln, that the Taylorites are in the legislature and are complicating her governance, especially since she only has a mandate from 33 percent of the Liberia people. So, Taylor's shadow is off in detention and I don't think the man is the problem. It's the supporters who are trying to complicate Ellen Johnson Sirleaf's job of rebuilding Liberia that's the problem."

To deal with that issue, Stremlau says a firm message must be sent. "What you do, I think, is make it plain to the Liberians that... this terrible, terrible period of bad governance and upheaval and war and destruction... has ruined just about everything in Liberia."

He says that the current government appears prepared to seriously engage the international community to form a serious partnership while maintaining the country's independence. He calls on the United States to stand up and support Liberia, considering their historic relationship.

## BBC Online

Wednesday, 12 July 2006

### Top Ugandan LRA rebels snub talks

Uganda's Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) rebels have refused to send their top leaders to peace talks with the Ugandan government due to start in Sudan.

LRA leader Joseph Kony and four of his commanders are wanted by an international court for war crimes.

The government wants to negotiate with a senior delegation and has promised an amnesty if they renounce violence.

Under international law, Uganda and Sudan would be obliged to arrest the accused if they appear at the talks.

In an attempt to persuade the rebels to send more senior delegates, South Sudan's Vice-President Riak Machar, the chief negotiator in the proposed peace process, travelled to their base near the Democratic Republic of Congo.

But the BBC's Jonah Fisher in Juba says he is returning without any of the top five leaders.

Our correspondent says there are now question marks over whether the government will attend to the talks that were due to start on Wednesday.

Mr Machar was hoping to convince the rebels to send at least one senior LRA commander to Juba, he says.

But after keeping him waiting for five days, the LRA leader refused to meet him.

Mr Kony's deputy - Vincent Otti - was left to convey the news that none of the five men wanted by the International Criminal Court (ICC) would attend the talks.

According to AFP news agency, Mr Otti said that Mr Kony would sign a deal if one was reached.

### Best chance

Meanwhile, the ICC says the Ugandan government has not asked for the withdrawal of arrest warrants for the rebel leaders during a meeting on Wednesday.

The talks are considered northern Uganda's best chance for peace in years, but the ICC insists the warrants still hold.

"The government of Uganda did not ask for any withdrawal of the warrants of arrest. The arrest warrants remain in effect," the ICC's prosecutor Luis Moreno-Ocampo said in a statement after meeting Uganda's security minister, Amama Mbabazi.

"It is the view of the office of the prosecutor and the government of Uganda that justice and peace have worked together thus far and can continue to work together," he continued.



Uganda rebel leader Joseph Kony calls himself a freedom fighter

“  
**did not ask for any withdrawal  
of the warrants of arrest. The**  
”  
ICC's Luis Moreno-Ocampo



Earlier, Ugandan government spokesman Robert Kabushenga said that Uganda was prepared to ignore the will of the ICC if the government, together with the Sudanese authorities, could reach a peace deal.

"The issue that you need to remember is that the enforcers of the international law have themselves not been very keen on enforcing it, and that is why the government decided that the option of the soft landing be pursued," he told the BBC's Network Africa programme

President Yoweri Museveni has argued that since the United Nations failed to arrest the leaders of the LRA while they were on Congolese territory, the ICC arrest warrants had no validity.

In a recent interview broadcast on the BBC, Mr Kony denied the LRA had carried out atrocities, particularly against children.

Thousands have died in the two-decade conflict between rebels and the government, and some two million have been forced to flee their homes.

#### **INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT**

First permanent court to try individuals for genocide, war crimes and other human rights violations

Rome Statute set up in July 1998, when 120 countries adopted the treaty

Came into force in April 2002 after ratification by 60 countries

Uganda and DR Congo investigations began in 2004

#### **Q&A: International Criminal Court**



*Ref.No.UNCG/staff/info/03/2006*

*12 July 2006*

## **Water conservation measures, and practical advice on personal welfare during a water shortage.**

### **1. Water conservation measures**

I am sure we are all aware of how precious water is. It is a resource that sustains the very building blocks of life itself. Without water human being cannot survive.

With this in mind we should all be respectful of the need to preserve this precious resource, especially in times of scarcity. There are a number of immediate steps one can take to conserve water.

- a) Ensure that there are no water leaks within your home or work place. Turn off open taps.
- b) Avoid using water for non-essential tasks. Washing vehicles for example.
- c) Consider setting up practical measures to collect rain water (some advice is under preparation).
- d) If you see a running tap or open water source, turn it off.

### **2. Personal welfare**

While the organization has an obligation in regards of care of duty, it is the staff member's ultimate responsibility to ensure that he/she is in a clean healthy condition. Water demand management and conserving the available scarce resources is the responsibility of each U.N. staff. In this regard, there a number of practical measures an individual can take. Water usage can be broken down into three distinct areas.

Drinking water, hygienic water and household water.

#### **Drinking water**

- a) Ensure adequate stocks of drinking water. Most commonly commercially available bottled water.
- b) Be aware that during a water shortage some commercially available filtered water can become contaminated, or extra chemicals added to ensure it remains sterile. Although this might not be life threatening it can cause stomach upsets. Better to buy commercially available, mostly imported, bottled water.
- c) Try to keep drinking water in a cool place away from strong light. This will ensure it stays fresh for longer.
- d) Estimate your daily usage and keep stocks accordingly. Identify sources to purchase water, supermarkets, PX.

- e) Keep stocks of drinking water at home and the workplace.

### **Water for hygienic purposes**

Water for this purpose tends to mean such tasks as personal bathing and brushing teeth.

- a) During a shortage of water, and apart from drinking water, this is the second most essential use of water. It also consumes large volumes.
- b) Water for bathing should also be clean, indeed it is possible to take a shower using 1 liter of safe bottled water.
- c) Clean rain water that is not contaminated can be used for this task, although it is not recommended for brushing teeth, and try to avoid ingesting during bathing.
- e) Try to limit the amount of water you use for bathing, try a “strip” wash. Washing underarms, genital areas, and face.
- d) During times when water is plentiful you may be brushing your teeth using tap water. During times of shortage this water should not be used. Instead use safe bottled water.

### **Household water**

This is the highest consumer of water. However, it can be the least hygienic.

- a) The rainy season is upon us; try setting up practical measures to collect rain water for this purpose (practical advice is under preparation by UN-Habitat and other specialized agencies).
- b) Recycled water can be used for this task, especially when it comes to flushing toilets.
- c) Ask the question, do I really need to flush every time?

### **Conclusion**

In essence, saving and conserving water is common sense. Many of us have worked in environments where water has been scarce, we have learned to adapt and invent ingenious measures for keeping clean and safe. Share your experiences with your colleagues, learn to save water.

Again, it is emphasized that the administration is taking precautionary measures in the event that the local water supply is interrupted. In the meantime, make it your personal duty to ensure you have done everything possible to stay clean and safe.



*Ref.No.UNCG/staff/info/02/2006*

*12 July 2006*

## **Risks from food and consumption of fluids**

Because of the water shortages and its rationing in Freetown UN staff members are advised and reminded to strictly follow food and water safety guidelines drafted below.

“Be careful what you eat” is a common advice to all staff living in tropical countries and travelers, but very few truly understand its implications. Detailed advice on the general principles of food safety is of crucial importance to travelers.

Diarrhea affects an estimated 20-50% of people during short-term or long-term stay in tropical areas. It may cause anything from embarrassment and inconvenience to misery and disruption of work, travel and business plans. For vulnerable people it may even be fatal, sometimes within a few hours, if not promptly and effectively treated. Besides those that cause diarrhea, other diseases that may be acquired from food and water include typhoid and paratyphoid fevers, viral hepatitis A and various parasitic diseases. Contaminated food and drink are the most common sources of these infections.

Careful selection and preparation of food and drink offer the best protection; unfortunately, the appearance of food is no guide as to its safety and contaminated food can appear appetizing. Eating safely means not always being able to eat when, where and what one wishes. The main personal precaution is to consider unpasteurized milk, non-bottled drinks and uncooked food, apart from fruit and vegetables that can be peeled or shelled, as likely to be contaminated and therefore possibly unsafe. Ice cream and homemade mayonnaise also frequently constitute a danger. Even with cooked food, staff should ensure that it has been thoroughly and freshly cooked.

**One should always remember the popular advice: “Cook it, peel it or leave it.”**

Food that is cooked in advance need to be held at a temperature of below 10 °C or above 60 °C to ensure its safety. Cooked food held at ambient temperatures (15-40 °C) for some time (more than 4-5 hours) constitutes one of the greatest risks of food-borne disease, since contaminating or surviving bacteria may multiply in it.

Un-pasteurized milk should be boiled before it is drunk; ice cream also frequently constitutes a danger.

Where there is no alternative to unsafe food, smaller quantities might reduce the risk: the gastric acid has some protective effect (hypochlorhydric and achlorhydric persons are more susceptible). Travelers might also consider missing a meal - many can afford to lose a little weight and it is better to do so from choice rather than through

illness. At certain times of the year, various species of fish and shellfish contain poisonous biotoxins even if well cooked.

Drinking water should be boiled or chlorinated and filtered. The bottled water should not be considered as 100% safe and should be boiled for 10 minutes before consumption. Ice should be avoided unless made from pure, boiled water. Beverages such as wine or beer, hot tea or coffee, and carbonated soft drinks or fruit juices that are bottled or otherwise packaged and properly stored are usually safe to drink. If staff expects to face situations where safe drinking water is not available, disinfectant agents should be used (e.g. Milton).

### **The Main Symptoms and the Clinical Picture of Food and Water born diseases**

Diarrhea can be defined as the passing of two loose stools, weighing more than 300g, per day. It is important for staff to inform the medical officer as early as possible about "diarrhea". It often blooms unseen because the patient is embarrassed. The doctor also needs to know if the diarrhea is acute or chronic, and in the latter case, if it is of watery or fatty / oily consistency.

The following table summarizes main symptoms and clinical pictures of diarrhea:

<b>SPECIAL CLINICAL PICTURES AND MAIN SYMPTOMS</b>			
<b>Suspicion of:</b>	<b>Incubation time:</b>	<b>Symptoms:</b>	<b>Duration:</b>
Enterotoxogenic Coli	2 to 10 days	acute start, watery diarrhea, vomiting, slight to high fever, abdominal pains, feels unwell.	3 to 5 days and longer
Salmonellosis - gastroenteritis	6 to 72 hours	acute start, watery diarrhea, vomiting, slight to high fever, feels unwell, abdominal pains.	A few days
Salmonella typhi	7 to 21 days	slow start, fever at first slight, then persistently high, abdominal pains, typhus rosettes, clouding of senses, bradycardia, watery stool after 3rd week, clinical picture of severe illness.	Untreated 4 to 6 weeks
Shigellosis	hours to 5 days	acute start, watery, slimy, bloody diarrhea, vomiting, slight fever, severe abdominal pains, clinically slight to severely ill.	About 1 week
Cholera	1 to 3 days	acute start, watery, rice water diarrhea, vomiting, no pains, very severe dehydration, and circulatory collapse, slightly to severely ill.	a few hours to 7 days

Amoebic dysentery	2 to 4 weeks or longer	insidious start, diarrhea of changing consistency, (slimy, bloody, raspberry - jam appearance), fever slight and then high, abdominal pains, slightly to severely ill.	weeks to years
Intestinal helminthiasis	3 weeks to years	insidious start, diarrhea, vague abdominal complaints, itching anus, lassitude, slight fever (sub febrile).	weeks to years

For further details please see: [http://www.who.int/water\\_sanitation\\_health/](http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/)