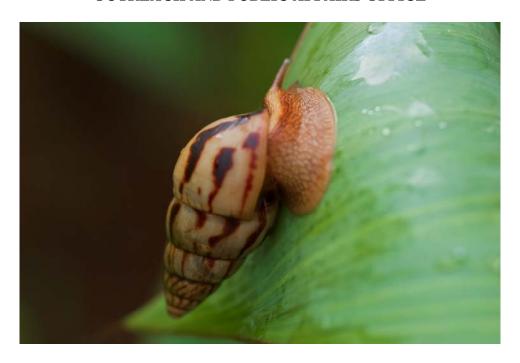
SPECIAL COURT FOR SIERRA LEONE OUTREACH AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE



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, 14 July 2011

Press clips are produced Monday through Friday.

Any omission, comment or suggestion, please contact

Martin Royston-Wright

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Concord Times Thursday, 14 July 2011

Special Court orders 5 to appear on July 15

Five persons accused of contempt have been ordered to appear before the Special Court in Freetown on July 15 to plead to charges they attempted to interfere with prosecution witnesses.

Hassan Papa Bangura, aka "Bomblast" and Samuel Kargbo, aka "Sammy Contd. page 4

Special Court orders 5 to appear on July 15

From page 1

Ragga", are ordered to appear before Justice Teresa Doherty at 9:00 a.m., while convicted former Armed Forces Revolutionary Front (AFRC) leaders Ibrahim Bazzy Kamara and Santigie Borbor Kanu, aka "Five-Five", are ordered to participate in the proceedings by video link from Rwanda.

All four are charged with two counts of attempting to bribe a witness to recant testimony given in the AFRC trial. Kamara faces an additional count of disclosing the name of a protected witness "in knowing violation of an order of a Chamber".

Eric Senessie is ordered to appear in court at 12:00 p.m. to plead to a nine count order in lieu of an indictment. He is charged with nine counts of attempting to induce Prosecution witnesses in the Taylor trial to recant testimony given before the Court in The Hague.

The Special Court's Defence Office has assisted the accused in securing legal representation.

If convicted of contempt under Rule 77 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence, the accused could face a prison sentence of up to seven years, a fine of up to two million leones (approximately \$500), or both.

Double Special Court trial, Friday

HEARING: 9:00 A.M.

Hassan Papa Bangura ("Bomblast") and Samuel Kargbo ("Sammy Ragga") will appear before Justice Teresa Doherty on Friday morning, 15 July 2011, to plead to two counts of interfering with prosecution witnesses who testified in the AFRC trial.

Pleas will also be taken from AFRC convicts Ibrahim Bazzy Kamara and Santigie Borbor Kanu ("Five-Five"), who will participate from Rwanda by video link. Kamara also faces a third count of knowingly revealing the name of a protected witness.

The hearing will take place at 9:00 a.m. in Court-room 1 at the Special Court's courthouse in Freetown. Visitors should be seated by 8:30 a.m.

HEARING: 12:00 P.M.

Eric Koi Senessie will appear before Justice Teresa Doherty on Friday, 15 July 2011, to plead to nine counts of interfering with prosecution witnesses who testified in the Taylor trial.

The hearing will take place at 12:00 p.m. in Courtroom 1 at the Special Court's courthouse in Freetown.

Elle.Com

Wednesday, 13 June 2011 http://www.elleuk.com/news/fashion-news

Carole white has a lot of Naomi Campbell stories

By Emily Cronin



Carole White may no longer represent Naomi Campbell, whom she discovered when Campbell was just a leggy teenager in the '80s, but that hasn't stopped the agent from dishing on her former client.

And her former client's relationship with blood diamonds. 'At the time I didn't realise what blood diamonds were and we thought it was amusing waiting for some diamonds to arrive in the middle of the night,' she said in a first-person account of working with Naomi in The Telegraph.

(You may recall that White testified in The Hague about Campbell's receipt of blood diamonds as a gift from Charles Taylor. She thought that would be that, 'but Naomi's recollection was different.')

White goes on to compare Campbell unfavourably to 'dream' client Christy Turlington:

'Christy and Naomi are very different characters. Christy was a dream, very professional and calm, whereas Naomi was less disciplined and used to get me into trouble. Mostly it was because she was late, but sometimes she just didn't turn up. I used to lie to her about what time she had to be at a job, but she soon worked that out, so I had to lie further. If the call time was 10am, I would tell her it was 8am so she would think it was 9am, but I still had to cross my fingers that she'd be on time. She missed planes too. Once after she missed a flight to Austria I had to organise a private jet to get her to the job because the money was so huge she had to be there.'

Wait: you mean Naomi Campbell is... difficult? That she has —gasp!—a bit of a diva disposition?

This is a woman who wore stilettos every day of her community service, to which she was sentenced after throwing her mobile at her maid. This is a woman who wore Alaia to The Hague, then said her appearance at the Special Court of Sierra Leone was 'a big inconvenience'. This is a woman who *growls* in a current, major ad campaign.

By now, what would be more surprising than stories about Campbell's diva-dom (which, to an extent, we have to admire for its honesty and put-it-all-out-there-ness) would be if anyone expected Naomi Campbell to be a milquetoast. You wouldn't make that mistake, would you?

Daily Monitor

Thursday, 14 July 2011

Kwoyelo trial combats impunity but imposes justice

In December 2003, the government of Uganda decided to refer the situation in northern Uganda to the International Criminal Court (ICC). After a year-long investigation, the ICC issued warrants of arrest for the top military leadership of the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) in July 2005. This action of the ICC elicited different reactions in Uganda.

While some sections of the society, especially in the north, thought retributive justice was the way to go to end the LRA rebellion, others thought restorative justice should be encouraged. The government decided to go with the latter in the names of domestic war crimes prosecution and now the trial is on but to me, it raises more questions than answers.

All criminal trials should include: credible, impartial and independent investigation and prosecution; adherence to international fair trial guarantees; penalties that reflect the gravity of the crimes; and adequate witness protection. Domestic war crimes prosecutions should also consider outreach to communities most affected by the crimes; and due regard for victims to involve themselves in proceedings but the work of the International Crimes Division of the High Court of Uganda, to-date, creates a number of concerns to me, including:

Kwoyelo's counsel has not had clear information regarding available resources to conduct his defence, and as of June 21, had no access to prosecution witness statements-for which timely disclosure can be essential to defence preparation. Whether adequate interpretation will be available at the trial is unclear.

Although a number of languages are likely to be used at the trial, including at least English and Luo, Uganda has no professional interpretation and translation system. Currently, Ugandan courts call on anyone who can speak the relevant language to interpret, which can create wide variation in the adequacy of interpretation and translation.

Whether adequate witness protection and support will be provided is unclear. Uganda has no formal witness protection programme, and as of March, there had been no assessment of risks for individual prosecution and defence witnesses, or of what support and protection would be required. Potential witnesses may be traumatised and face security threats due to their testimony.

Outreach and public information about Kwoyelo's trial in the lead-up to its opening has been minimal, although some outreach activities were previously conducted about the division's work. Even Kwoyelo's defence attorneys were not aware of the trial's opening date until some few days before the trial.

Recently, Human Rights Watch issued a memorandum on particular challenges for Uganda in conducting national war crimes trials, which highlighted additional areas of concern, including insufficient definitions and forms of liability under Ugandan law for serious crimes in violation of international law, weak capacity of Uganda's justice system, and past incidents of attempted interference by the executive.

The fact that the government decided to exclude Uganda soldiers from the court's jurisdiction also cast doubt on the fairness of the court. The international crimes committed by armed forces shouldn't be tried by the military courts since they took place during the conflict and Ugandan soldiers have been accused of rape, forced displacement, murder and use of child soldiers.

Kwoyelo also spent over 18 months in custody without any legal representation. Since November 2010, Kwoyelo has been represented by private lawyer, Caleb Alaka. The defence has not had access to any state funds to carry out investigations.

Hirondelle News Agency Wednesday, 13 July 2011

Jean-Pierre Bemba's trial before the International Criminal Court (ICC) was adjourned on July 11 until August 22, due to judiciary recess.

During the last four weeks, the Prosecution has been hearing witnesses and victims of lootings. Witnesses also gave information on Bemba's militia behavior during the conflict.

Jean-Pierre Bemba is charged with crimes against humanity for murder, rapes and looting committed by his troops in Central African Republic between 2002 and March 2003.

Witness 209 explained in June that "Bemba's troops were composed of Rwandan and former Mobutu soldiers". According to the witness, "Banyamulenge were not originally soldiers but farmers (...) That's why instead of fighting they did prefer to rape women and to loot other people belongings". "They were farmers, bean croppers", he added." They did not respect their hierarchy".

Another witness code-named 112 explained how rebels came to his house, beat him and took everything he had: "I had a big radio, a thick foam mattress. I had my clothes, my bed, a sewing machine, a cassava mill, not to speak about my house doors and windows that ended as wood fuel". He declared that Banyamulenge were used to cross the border with all their lootings.

Bemba's trial opened on November 2010.

SM/GF

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The Standard (Kenya) Wednesday, 13 July 2011

Ocampo changes tact to prove cases

By Evelyn Kwamboka

The International Criminal Court Prosecutor Luis Moreno-Ocampo will not rely on live witnesses for the confirmation of charges hearing scheduled for September.

Moreno-Ocampo, who had lined up 20 witnesses for the hearing against six post-election violence suspects, said he would only rely on edited documented evidence in his possession.

"In an effort to conduct the hearing in the most efficient and expeditious manner, and in light of the ongoing and persistent concerns related to the security in Kenya, the prosecution indicates that it does not intend to call any live witnesses at the confirmation of charges hearings," he said.

The latest move comes barely two months after the prosecutor claimed releasing his evidence to the defence before the confirmation of hearings would expose his 20 witnesses, who include victims, to risk.

He had indicated that he would edit his witnesses' identities and hospitals where they were treated.

The prosecutor is now left with more than 12,000 pages of edited documents he is to rely on.

The court had given the prosecutor and six post-election violence suspects until July 12 to indicate whether they intend to call live witnesses for the confirmation of charges hearings.

Pre-Trial Chamber II Judge Ekaterina Trendafilova stated in her June 20 ruling that those with live witnesses to submit information detailing the subject matter and the scope of the proposed testimony of each of them. Written statements

The deadline on calling live witnesses was extended for the defence lawyers for Eldoret North MP William Ruto, radio presenter Joshua arap Sang and Tinderet MP Henry Kosgey to July 19. The judge told the parties that although oral testimony is permitted, the confirmation of charges hearings could be based on witnesses' written statements.

"The judge expects the parties to rely on live witnesses only when their oral testimony at the hearing cannot be properly substituted by documentary evidence or witnesses' written statements," said Judge Trendafilova.

Article 68(5) of the Rome Statute and rule 81(6) of the court permits that both the prosecutor and the defence submit only a summary of evidence with a view to preventing disclosure of information that might put at risk witnesses or their families.

In the decision, the judge considered that the prosecutor and the defence teams would comply with the order, given that all the relevant information be made in their possession in advance.

The confirmation of charges hearings are to be held on September 1, for Ruto, Sang and Kosgey, and on September 21 for Uhuru Kenyatta, Francis Muthaura and Hussein Ali.

Radio Netherlands Worldwide

Wednesday, 13 July 2011

Genocide suspects announce hunger strike at tribunal

By Thijs Bouwknegt



(Photo: hoteldephil/Flickr)

A group of Rwandan genocide suspects at the UN tribunal in Tanzania has gone on hunger strike. They are protesting against the decision by the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) to transfer a case to Rwanda.

"The signing detainees draw the attention of the ICTR authorities and of public opinion to this arbitrary situation and after their co-detainee, John Uwinkindi, they also decided to start a hunger strike," reads a communique signed by 24 detainees at the tribunal's prison.

The ICTR on 28 June referred the case of pastor Jean Uwinkindi to Rwanda to be tried in the Rwandan national court system, marking the first time in the tribunal's history it has done so.

Three judges said they were satisfied that the "government of Rwanda was prepared to receive its first referral from the ICTR." They advised the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights to monitor Uwinkindi's trial in Rwanda.

But after Uwinkindi announced on Tuesday that he would go on hunger strike to stop the transfer of his case to his home country, he was put in isolation at the UN prison. His fellow detainees in Arusha decided to support Uwinkindi's opposition to the transfer.

"We do not understand how your Tribunal, which is part and parcel of the United Nations, could ignore the catastrophic state of the Rwanda judiciary and take itself off a case, in favour of Rwanda - at a time when the Tribunal is in a position to try the case without compromising its completion strategy," they wrote in a separate letter to the court's president.

The suspects at the ICTR argue that Rwanda could not possibly give Uwinkindi a fair trial because he would be "a disturbing witness against the current Rwanda regime."