

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



Mabang River

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:

Friday, 16 October 2009

Press clips are produced Monday through Friday.
Any omission, comment or suggestion, please contact
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The New Age
Friday, 16 October 2009

AFRC, RUF, CDF prisoners disowned

President Koroma!

The AFRC, RUF and CDF sentenced Special Court prisoners are said to be unhappy over comment of President Koroma in relation to decision by the court to have them serve jail terms in Rwanda.

Sources say the three groups of Special Court prisoners had sent a letter to the President prior to his condemnation of the SLPP visits to Special Court asking for his intervention on the issue of their transfer to Rwanda where they are to serve their jail terms.

Former warlord and leader of RUF, Issa Sesay, a sentence prisoner of the court, is alleged disappointed accusation of President Koroma that the visit of the SLPP to the management of Special Court, sounds 'cheap.'

Undercover findings revealed that President Koroma in January 2006 (while acting as opposition leader), visited all three groups of war prisoners to have a common ground with them over their incarceration and to also disclose his intention of help them should he becomes the President of Sierra Leone.

It could be recalled that President Koroma, Victor Foe and I.B Kargbo (then President of SLAJ) in 2006, visited prisoners of the Special Court to chat the way forward and also request their supports for the 2007 Presidential and Parliamentary elections.

It must be noted that persons held in Special Court detention for war crimes and crimes against humanity are political prisoners and have loyal followings. Sources say the RUF leader and Late Hinga Norman, including AFRC Tamba Brima, welcome the visit of President Koroma as then and, called on him to help facilitate their release or cause ease of detention should the court finds them guilty as charged.

The 2006 meeting, our investigation proved, brought to light smiles in faces of both the visitors and host prisoners.

Understandings reached at between the APC delegation and detained persons, we are told, has now been viewed as a betrayal on the part of the ruling APC party.

Sources from inside Special Court detention camp bares that the three groups of prisoners who now serve their sentences are to be flown to Rwanda where it is supposed they will serve jail terms.

Investigation also confirmed that a prison called Impanga in Rwanda has been identified as the place the sentenced prisoners would have to serve jail terms. This prison, according to our findings, is far from meeting international standards and has been condemned by human rights watch dogs as deplorable.

Reliable source disclosed to this press that the decision to transfer the Special Court prisoners to Rwanda was done with the absolute consent of the ruling APC; and a letter confirming that Sierra Leone precludes the idea of having the prisoners serve jail terms locally was later filed to management of the court from the office of the President.

To be continued.

The Senator
Friday, 16 October 2009



Chief Justice, Umu Tejan -Jalloh

Juvenile Justice To Change Form

A workshop to discuss and modernize Juvenile Justice in Sierra Leone ends tomorrow in the main court room of the Special Court at New England in Freetown.

The two-day workshop is being attended by the Attorney General and Minister of Justice, Abdul Serry-Kamal, the Hon. Chief Justice Umu Tejan-Jalloh who officially opened the workshop, Hon. Justice Renate Winter, President of the Special Court of Sierra Leone, Hon. Justice Julia Sarkodie-Mensah, Consultant Master and Registrar of the Judiciary of Sierra Leone, several judges, magistrates

and other stakeholders including representatives of the Justice Sector Development Programme (JSDP), the Minister of Social Welfare Gender and Children's Affairs, the Inspector General of Police and the Director of Prisons.

Today, Justice Renate Winter delivers a paper on the Convention on the Rights of the Child - Penal Part; Pa Momoh Fofanah speaks on the National Law of Sierra Leone Concerning Children In Conflict with the Law; Jennifer Beoku-Betts delivers a paper on The National Case on Juvenile Justice, whilst Francis M. Lahai of Social Welfare

See Page 2

Juvenile Justice To Change Form From Front Page

Ministry speaks on the National Legislation on Child Protection.

After the plenary session tomorrow, it is expected that the working groups would come up with recommendations and proposals that would help the Judiciary formulate new and better laws that would alleviate the plight of Juveniles in conflict with the law and its attendant problems.

The Satellite

Friday, 16 October 2009

DADIS CAMARA WANTED FOR CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY



GUINEA'S LEADER MOUSSA DADIS CAMARA

The European Union has called for the junta leader in Guinea, Moussa Dadis Camara to face trial for crimes against humanity. The call was made by the EU's development chief Karel de Gucht. **Contd. Page 3**

DADIS CAMARA WANTED FOR CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY

From Front Page

He claimed that the suppression of an opposition rally in the capital Conakry last month was "an act of brutality never seen before". He also predicted that sooner or later leader Capt Moussa Dadis Camara would have to stand in court "This is a crime against humanity. It is a crime against the citizens of Guinea; the international community has agreed that, if such things happen, those individuals have to be brought to justice, he told reporters.

In response to the UN official's remarks, the Guinean Prime Minister was quoted as saying that it was premature to talk of criminal acts and that a full inquiry was needed to first establish the facts. But it is only obvious that fingers will point firmly at Dadis Camara as it was members of the military that carried these vicious attacks and even if he did not order the killings; he didn't make any effort to stop them. This brutal dictator even had the audacity of blaming this barbaric act of his on foreign elements of the Guinean military who he referred to as 'mercenaries'

When Dadis Camara came to power in a bloodless coup immediately after the death of President Lansana Conte, himself a dictator by all means, he promised to put an end to corruption and drug trafficking, improve discipline in the army and set up elections for early next year. Since then persistent rumours that he intends to run for president in the forthcoming elections had sparked protests in Conakry that saw over 150 massacred by the regime.

Sierra Express Media
Friday, 16 October 2009

Hague fixes Karadzic trial date



brought to the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia last year, after more than a decade in hiding.

Immunity rejected

The latest delay to the start date is to allow Mr Karadzic, who is defending himself, time to review new prosecution documents.

AFP

Former Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic will go on trial at The Hague on Monday 26 October, the court says.

It is the second time in a week that the trial - originally due to start on 19 October - has been put back.

But Mr Karadzic's attempts to have the start delayed by 10 months have been rejected by the court.

Mr Karadzic is charged with 11 counts of war crimes and crimes against humanity, including genocide, dating back to the Bosnian war.

They include charges related to the 1995 massacre of about 8,000 men and boys at Srebrenica.

Mr Karadzic was arrested in Serbia and

The court has called on the prosecution to present an updated indictment - or charge sheet - complete with prosecution notes, by 19 October.

The court has rejected Mr Karadzic's appeal that the case be dropped on the grounds that he was offered immunity from prosecution by former US mediator Richard Holbrooke in 1996 if he left public life. Mr Holbrooke has repeatedly denied the claim.

The judges ruled on Tuesday: "Even if the alleged agreement were proved, it would not limit the jurisdiction of the tribunal, it would not otherwise be binding on the tribunal and it would not trigger the doctrine of abuse of process."

United Nations  **Nations Unies**

United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL)

UNMIL Public Information Office Media Summary 15 October 2009

[The media summaries and press clips do not necessarily represent the views of UNMIL.]

International Clips on Liberia

International Clips on West Africa

Guinea

ICC prosecutor to examine Guinea killings

AMSTERDAM (Reuters) - The prosecutor of the International Criminal Court said on Thursday he was investigating last month's deadly crackdown on opponents of Guinea's military ruler, Captain Moussa Dadis Camara. At least 157 people were killed and 1,200 injured on September 28 when security forces in the West African nation attacked tens of thousands of protesters calling for Camara to step down. It was the worst outbreak of violence since Camara seized control of the world's biggest bauxite-exporting nation in a December 2008 coup. "A preliminary examination of the situation has been immediately initiated in order to determine whether crimes falling under the Court's jurisdiction have been perpetrated," the office of ICC prosecutor Luis Moreno-Ocampo said in a statement.

Sierra Leone

APS Arrives in Sierra Leone

By Chief Petty Officer Jason Morris

Africa Partnership Station Johan De Witt Public Affairs

FREEETOWN, Sierra Leone, Oct 15, 2009 — The Dutch amphibious ship HNLMS Johan De Witt (L 801) arrived in Freetown, Sierra Leone, October 14, 2009, for a two-day port visit as part of the ongoing Africa Partnership Station (APS) initiative. Johan De Witt is in Sierra Leone in support of the first European-led APS deployment. During the visit, the APS team will conduct engagements both afloat and ashore and embark Sierra Leone students for a four-week, at-sea training program. "For many reasons, this is a special visit," said Royal Dutch Navy Captain Ben Bekkering, commanding officer of Johan De Witt. "As far as I can recall, it has been a very long time since the Dutch have visited here, and I am very glad for the Dutch Navy to return. Also, I am glad to see that Sierra Leone is doing so well in rebuilding the structures needed to ensure maritime safety and security. To play a part in that rebuilding, both to learn and to teach, is at the heart of APS." Source: Africa Partnership Station

Ivory Coast

Ivory Coast presidential hopeful vows cocoa revamp

<http://af.reuters.com/article/topNews/idAFJJOE59E03V20091015?sp=true>

ABENGOUROU, Ivory Coast (Reuters) - Ivory Coast opposition leader and presidential hopeful Alassane Ouattara said on Wednesday he plans to reverse the country's sliding cocoa output with a

five-year \$2.5 billion revamp programme. Declining production in the world's No. 1 cocoa supplier has helped push world prices for the commodity near a 25-year high, with Ivorian farmers blaming high taxes and limited government support for their deteriorating plantations. The country, scarred by a 2002-03 civil war that split the nation in two, has scheduled long-delayed elections for later this year. Analysts say the poll could restore the West African nation's stability if successful. "We are going to make agriculture the nation's priority," Ouattara told a group of farmers in Abengourou, north of the main commercial city Abidjan. Ouattara said he believed farmers should get "at least half" the world market price for their output as a means of encouraging increased production. Ivory Coast's government, under President Laurent Gbagbo who will also run in the upcoming poll, has slashed taxes on cocoa exports for the 2009/10 season in the hopes of boosting output that slumped last season to its lowest in at least five years.

Local Media – Newspaper

NEC Opens Campaign

(The Inquirer, The News, The Informer, National Chronicle, Daily Observer, New Democrat)

- The National Elections Commission (NEC) has qualified ten persons to contest the Montserrado County Senatorial By-Election slated for November 10, 2009.
- They include Jacqueline Capehart, Independent; Dairus A. Dillon of Liberty Party (LP); Daniel Johnson, Independent; Grace T. Kpaan, Independent and Alhaji G.V. Kromah, Independent.
- Others are Jasper Ndaborlor of Free Democratic Party (FDP); Geraldine Doe-Sheriff of Congress for Democratic Change (CDC); Wilson K. Tarpeh of Alliance for Peace and Democracy (APD); Nathaniel Toe, Independent and Clemenceau Urey of the ruling Unity Party (UP).
- The Commission has admonished the candidates and their supporters to go about their campaign activities in a peaceful manner.

Danish 1st Lady Evaluates Country's Programs, Holds Talks with President Sirleaf

(The Informer)

- The First Lady of Denmark, Madam Solrun Lokke Rasmussen who is in Liberia to evaluate her country's support, has paid a courtesy call on President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf at the Foreign Ministry in Monrovia.
- The Danish first lady, who is paying her first visit to Africa, expressed delight over her visit to Liberia and noted the significant progress Liberia has made, pointing out that the country is on the "right path to recovery and national development".
- Welcoming the Danish First lady, the Liberian President described Denmark as one of country's good partners.
- She expressed Liberia's appreciation for the support Denmark has provided to help Liberia meet the Millennium Development Goal-3. Goal-3 of the MDGs seeks to "promote gender equality and empower women".
- It includes eliminating gender disparity in primary and secondary education preferably by 2005, and at all levels by 2015, among others.

GC Backs Civil Society's Legislative Engagement PUL Stresses Vigilance, Unity

(The Informer)

- The Governance Commission (GC) has welcomed a civil society initiative to engage the National Legislature to pass several Acts of high importance, currently stalled at the Legislature.
- Addressing civil society leaders at a one-day leadership forum on legislature engagement and advocacy, GC Commissioner Elizabeth Sele Mulbah expressed the GC's highest appreciation to the civil society for such advocacy.
- Commissioner Mulbah said the civil society action is highly welcomed by the GC because it forms part of the Commission's area of concentration and is also in line with the Commission's work.
- "Democratic Governance cannot be achieved without the direct participation of civil society," Commissioner Mulbah noted.

Over US\$300,000 Criminal Probe hangs over Bropleh

(Heritage, The News, The Inquirer, National Chronicle, Daily Observer, The Analyst, New Vision)

- President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf's Information Minister Laurence Bropleh is at the verge of suspension in connection with over US\$300,000.00 "financial scandal" at some of Liberia's foreign missions.
- Minister Bropleh's financial aides, the chief accountant Josiah Gwagee and comptroller Joseph Nyamunue have already been suspended owing to their involvement in a financial scandal affecting the Ministry and handed over to the Justice Ministry for investigation.
- President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf has at the same time instructed Minister Bropleh to cut short a trip to China and return home immediately to address the scam at the Ministry.
- President Sirleaf has meanwhile requested Auditor general John Morlu to focus on the ongoing audit on payroll transactions of the Information Ministry.

Senate Convenes Special Session Tomorrow

(Heritage, National Chronicle)

- The Liberian Senate will Friday, October 16, 2009 convene a special session that will focus on critical national issues.
- Debates on the controversial population threshold bill and other electoral legislations are expected to top the special session's agenda.
- The announcement of a special session by the Senate follows an Information Ministry statement that President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf had been lobbying behind the scene with members of the National Legislature to have them returned from their agriculture break.

Government Ratifies CEDAW

(The New)

- The Government of Liberia has ratified an Act of the National Legislature on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).
- The declaration is contained in a proclamation issued by President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf declaring Thursday, October 15, 2009 "World Rural Women's Day" in recognition of rural women role in agriculture and food production.
- Rural women make up more than a quarter of the World's Population, constituting 80 percent of the World Agriculture Workforce and food production.

Liberia Hosts International Forum

(The News)

- The Government of Liberia through the Ministry of Agriculture will today Thursday, October 15 begin a two-day roundtable to be preceded by the compact signing of the Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Program (CAADP) in Monrovia.
- Agriculture Minister Florence Chenoweth at a news conference said CAADP aims to accelerate agricultural growth and eliminate poverty on the continent.
- She said the purpose of the CAADP roundtable is to reach consensus among key stakeholders on the framework, forge the necessary partnerships to implement the Liberia Agriculture Sector Investment Program (LASIP).
- Over 300 agricultural experts and policy makers, development partners, representatives of international organizations are expected to attend the roundtable.

America pumps US\$30 million into Liberia's health sector

(The News)

- The United States Government says it is providing over US\$30 million dollar worth of support to Liberia's impoverished health sector this fiscal year.
- The Charge D'Affaires at the US Embassy, Brooks Robinson said portion of the amount would go towards renovating hospitals and clinics throughout the country and to sponsor basic health-care services and the training of health workers.

- According to her, the US Government was also supporting the provision of scholarships in the areas of public health and administration.
- Ms. Robinson also named the provision of treated bed nets under the US President's Malaria Initiative as part of efforts by the United States to improve health for all.
- The US Embassy Official spoke Wednesday at the dedication of the newly renovated and refurbished Tubman National Institute of Medical Arts Dormitory and Annex valued at US\$75,000.00.

USAID Mission Director against teenage pregnancy

(The News)

- USAID Mission Director Pamela White has called for a reduction in the spread of teen-age pregnancy in the country.
- Ms. White speaking Wednesday at the dedicatory ceremonies of the refurbished TNIMA facilities said teen age pregnancy was responsible for the high rate of maternal mortality in post-conflict Liberia.
- According to the USAID Mission Director, most girls usually die during child-birth because they are under age.
- Ms. White however said she was not against women giving birth to children, but not when they are below 14.

Local Media – Star Radio (*culled from website today at 09:00 am*)

Scam at Information Ministry, Bropleh ordered to report

(*Also reported on Radio Veritas, Sky Radio, Truth F.M. and ELBC*)

Senate requests special session Friday

Full-blow strike paralyzes Guthrie Clinic

- A go-slow action by health workers at the Guthrie Rubber Plantation in Bomi County has reportedly degenerated into a full-blown strike.
- The striking workers claimed the MARCO Interim Management team at the plantation owes them four month's salary arrears.
- But the County Health Officer, Dr. Rhoda Peters during a County Support Development Committee meeting Tuesday said the workers had been operating the clinic far below standards.
- Dr. Peters said most of those who claim to be doctors at the clinic are in fact quacks and cannot continue to benefit from Government's subsidy.
- Meanwhile, the Labor Ministry has dismissed reports of a full-blow strike at the Guthrie health facility.
- Assistant Labor Minister for Trade Union, Cole Bangalu said he visited the Guthrie Health Center on Wednesday and saw no sign of strike.

America pumps US\$30 million into Liberia's health sector

USAID Mission Director against teenage pregnancy

Drug shortage hits Kingsville clinics

- The Commissioner of Kingsville Township, Margibi County says inadequate medical supply is affecting the smooth operation of the only health center in the area.
- Commissioner Joseph Darkpah said the clinic lacks drugs, electricity and other medical essentials which appalling situation has forced the clinic to operate 8 hours a day instead of the regular 24-hour service.
- He named malaria and water-borne diseases as the common medical cases treated at the clinic.
- The Kingsville Township Commissioner called on Health Ministry authorities to prioritize the only public health facility in the area.

Radio Veritas (*News culled from website today at 09:45am*)

NEC declares campaign opened with ten candidates

(Also reported on Star Radio, Sky Radio, Truth F.M. and ELBC)

Truth FM *(News culled from website today at 10:00am)***President Sirleaf declares Thursday working holiday**

- President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf has by proclamation declared Thursday October 15 World White Cane Safety Day and World Sight Day will be observed throughout the Country as a working holiday.
- President Sirleaf has called on the Ministry of Health to collaborate with the World Health Organization (WHO) and others partners to execute programs befitting the day.
- A Foreign Affairs Ministry release said the Christian Association of the Blind (CAB) will join its partners the world over to celebrate the day which will be observed under the theme: Sight and Gender for the Equalization of Opportunity for the Blind in Liberia.
- The white cane was invented in 1930 by Lion George Bonham of the Illinois Lions Club of the United States as a walking instrument for the blind.

(Also reported on Star Radio, Sky Radio, Truth F.M. and ELBC)

Associated Press

Thursday, 15 October 2009

International court investigates Guinea violence

By MIKE CORDER

THE HAGUE, Netherlands — The International Criminal Court said Thursday it has launched a preliminary investigation into last month's violence at a Guinea sports stadium, where presidential guard troops opened fire on tens of thousands of demonstrators.

The investigation is meant to establish whether offenses were committed when the troops fired on 50,000 people at the West African nation's main soccer stadium. A Guinean human rights group says 157 people were killed and more than 1,200 wounded. The government put the death toll at 57.

The court's deputy prosecutor, Fatou Bensouda, said women were brutalized by men "apparently in uniform" at the stadium in the capital, Conakry.

"This is appalling, unacceptable," Bensouda said in a statement. "Those responsible must be held accountable."

If the court finds crimes were committed it could launch a full-scale investigation and prosecute senior commanders. The initial phase of the investigation will likely take months.

All gatherings and demonstrations have been banned in Guinea since the violence broke out Sept. 28 as protesters rallied against plans by the country's military ruler to run for president next year.

Capt. Moussa "Dadis" Camara seized power in a coup nine months ago, hours after the death of longtime dictator Lansana Conte.

Guinea became the first of France's African colonies to become independent in 1958, after nearly seven decades of French rule.

But since independence, the mineral-rich nation has been pillaged by its ruling elite, leaving its 10 million people among the world's poorest.

The International Criminal Court has launched four full-scale investigations — in Congo, Uganda, Sudan's Darfur region and the Central African Republic. It also is working on preliminary investigations in nations including Afghanistan, Colombia, Georgia and Kenya.

The court has four Congolese war lords in its custody but so far has started just one trial. Its most senior suspect, Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir, rejects the court's jurisdiction and refuses to turn himself in. He is accused of orchestrating war crimes and crimes against humanity in Darfur.

Prosecutors also are examining whether they have the jurisdiction to respond to a Palestinian request to investigate last year's Gaza conflict.

Agence Frances Presses

Thursday, 15 October 2009

Court sets October 26 start for Karadzic trial

THE HAGUE — Bosnian Serb wartime leader Radovan Karadzic will go on trial on October 26 accused of war crimes, genocide, and crimes against humanity, the UN's Yugoslav tribunal in The Hague said Thursday.

The court "hereby orders that the trial shall commence on Monday, October 26, at 9:00am," said a statement from presiding judge O-Gon Kwon.

The trial at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) is expected to last two years.

It was initially due to start October 19 but was put back for administrative reasons until October 21. Then an appeals court on Tuesday granted Karadzic a few extra days until October 26 to prepare his defence but threw out a motion by the former Serbian strongman for a delay of several months.

Karadzic intends to stage his own defence like former Yugoslav president Slobodan Milosevic, who died in March 2006 before the end of his own war crimes trial.

He has told the court he and a team of legal advisors needed more time to work through a million pages of prosecution documents and interview more than 300 witnesses.

Karadzic, 64, was arrested in Belgrade last July after 13 years on the run.

He faces 11 charges, including for his role in the 44-month siege of Sarajevo that left 10,000 people dead and the July 1995 massacre of around 8,000 Muslim men and boys in Srebrenica.

The court confirmed on appeal on Tuesday that any immunity deal concluded between Karadzic and US negotiator Richard Holbrooke had no jurisdiction over it.

Karadzic maintains that he had struck a deal in 1996 with Holbrooke whereby he agreed to withdraw from public life in exchange for immunity from prosecution.

The trial will open with a two-day presentation of the case against Karadzic which the prosecution will then bolster over the ensuing year by calling several hundred witnesses to the stand, including victims, relatives of victims and experts.

The court is still urging Serb authorities to arrest Ratko Mladic, 67, the former military chief for the Bosnian Serbs, who has been on the run since 1995.

Mladic is also charged with war crimes, genocide and crimes against humanity for his role in the 1992-95 Bosnian war that cost an estimated 100,000 lives.

Since its inauguration in 1993, the court has indicted 161 people for crimes committed during the 1990s Balkans wars. Of those, 120 have been tried.

Radio Netherlands Worldwide

Wednesday, 14 October 2009

International Criminal Court to hear Darfur case

By Thijs Bouwknecht



The Hague, Belanda

The International Criminal Court will start confirmation of charges hearings in the case against Darfur rebel leader Abu Garda on Monday 19 October.

A confirmation hearing is held to ensure that no case goes to trial unless there is sufficient evidence to establish substantial grounds to believe that the person committed the crime with which he has been charged.

Bahr Idriss Abu Garda has the right to attend the hearing or in his absence be represented by counsel.

On 18 May this year Darfur rebel Abu Garda, a member of the Zaghawa tribe of Sudan, appeared for the first time before ICC in The Hague. He travelled to The Netherlands of his own free will. He was allowed to leave for Darfur after his initial appearance.

Denies involvement

The 46-year-old Abu Garda faces three counts of war crimes, including murder and pillaging, for commanding about 1,000 men to attack international peacekeepers in 2007. The assault killed 12 African Union soldiers and seriously wounded eight others at their military base in Haskanita, in north Darfur.

Abu Garda has denied any involvement in the attack and said he was prepared to go The Hague.

The former commander of the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) is the first suspect to have surrendered voluntarily to the ICC. He is also the first to appear before the ICC in relation to the Darfur conflict, which the UN says has claimed 300,000 lives and displaced more than 2 million people.

Attacking peacekeepers

While the rebel attacks on the peacekeepers have not been on the same scale as the crimes committed in the Sudanese government's military campaigns in Darfur, "they are nonetheless serious crimes that also have major implications for civilians," human rights organisations say.

ICC prosecutor Luis Moreno Ocampo described the act as "the most serious attack against peacekeepers in Darfur." He believes the latest indictment will be a strong warning to Sudanese rebels carrying out attacks against peacekeepers that their actions will no go unpunished.

Darfur and the ICC

In addition to Abu Garda's summons, three public arrest warrants have already been issued in the ICC's Darfur investigation. Sudanese President Omar Hassan al Bashir was indicted in March for seven counts of war crimes and crimes against humanity. The court has issued arrest warrants for two other men, the State Minister for Humanitarian Affairs, Ahmed Haroun, and a "Janjaweed" militia leader, Ali Koshayb.

To date, none of the three outstanding arrest warrants have been executed. Sudan says the prosecution of Abu Garda had not changed its opinion of the ICC, which it has dismissed as part of a Western plot against Khartoum.