

**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:**

Wednesday, 18 February 2009

Press clips are produced Monday through Friday.  
Any omission, comment or suggestion, please contact  
Martin Royston-Wright  
Ext 7217

**Local News**

Ten Things That Will Happen if 'Dream Team' Makes a Coup / *PEEP!* Page 3

**International News**

UNMIL Public Information Office Complete Media Summaries / *UNMIL* Pages 4-6

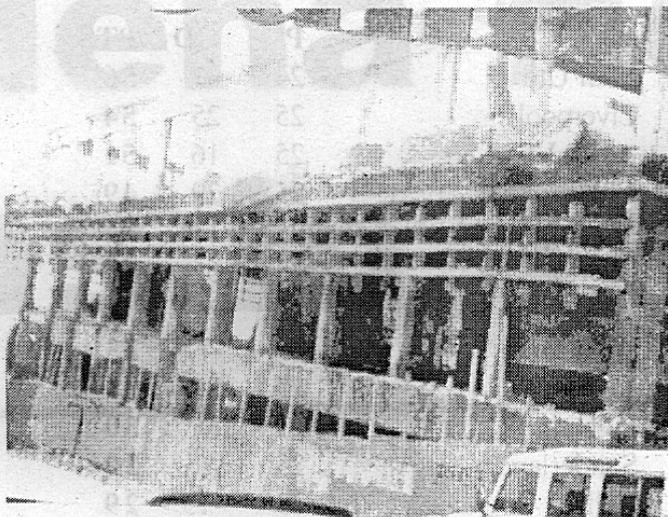
Lawyers Call for New Duch Investigations / *The Phnom Penh Post* Pages 7-8

UN Probes Extrajudicial Killings In Kenya / *Voice of America* Pages 9-10

PEEP!

Wednesday, 18 February 2009

## TEN THINGS THAT WILL HAPPEN IF 'DREAM TEAM' MAKES A COUP



1. Special Court adjourns *sine die*, leaving about \$2 million in fund yet UNSPENT.

2. Bazy, Five Five etc. acquitted by a jury of peers

(unnuly sojas).

3. GOD, having saved Salone time - without number, finally decides 'Ah - These Guys Aren't Serious - mek den suffer 40

years'.

4. work on refurbishing City Hall (below) suspended in case soldiers decide to burn it once again.

5. U.N Security Council decides - "we're not putting 200D MONEY after BAD.

6. IMATT unceremoniously disbands - leaving 50 kilogrammes of SAUSAGE in the fridge at Leicester Square'.

7. Leicester Square re-named 'Mogadishu Square'.

8. Frantic house building around that area suddenly, mysteriously TERMINATES.

9. Sierra Leone reopens surgical market in SEVERED HANDS (for transplantation):

10. Former Defence minister, now becomes MODEL for PROTECTOR PLUS CONDOMS.

United Nations  Nations Unies

United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL)

---

**UNMIL Public Information Office Complete Media Summaries  
17 February 2009**

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

**Newspaper Summary**

**Opposition Party Opts for Amendment of City Charter before Confirmation of Mayors**  
(The News, The Inquirer)

- The opposition Liberty Party has called on the Senate not to confirm any appointed city mayor until city charters are amended. At a press conference, the Political Leader of the Liberty Party Counsellor Charles Walker Brumskine said the charters give authority to elected not appointed mayors.
- Cllr. Brumskine quoted a portion of the charter which gives city mayors the authority to create municipal laws and levy taxes.
- He argued that levying taxes lie solely with the Legislature, which can dedicate the function to legislative bodies of municipality.
- Cllr. Brumskine noted the action is justified by accountability to the people and as such appointed officials who serve at the will and pleasure of the President can not operate under the charter.
- He recommended the repealing of all city charters to create the legal framework under which appointed city mayors can operate.
- He also recommended the holding of a referendum to overturn the Supreme Court's ruling on the appointment of city mayors as another option.
- The Supreme Court in 2008 ruled in favour of the Executive, giving the President the power to appoint city mayors.

**TRC Witness Claims Ex-President Taylor's Cartel Looted, Pillage Liberia's Forest Resources**  
(Heritage, The Informer)

- Speaking Monday at Liberia's Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Public Hearing on Economic Crimes at the Centennial Memorial Pavilion in Monrovia, the director of the Sustainable Development Institute (SDI) Silas Kpanan' Ayoung Siakor claimed a cartel of foreign and local businessman and government officials under the guidance of former President Charles Taylor looted and pillaged Liberia's forest resources,
- Mr. Siakor said not only did they loot Liberia's forest resources but many of them aided and abetted the conflict that claimed approximately a quarter of million lives.
- What was most appalling of their activities, Siakor said, was the harassment, intimidation, molestation, they meted against the people in rural areas where they operated with impunity.
- Siakor's presentation focused on the Logging Sector and the Conflict.

**Radio Summary**

**Local Media – Star Radio** *(News culled from website at 12:00pm)*

**Opposition Party wants City Charter Amended before Confirmation**  
*(Also reported on Truth FM, Radio Veritas, Sky FM, and ELBC)*

**U.S. Navy brings in medical, educational supplies for Liberia**

- The United States Government through its Navy has off-loaded several medical and educational supplies for Liberia.
- The consignment includes training materials and supplies for 16 marines who will provide some level of training to the Armed Forces of Liberia. The program is under the banner of the Africa Partnership Station of the U.S. Navy.
- The head of the APS Navy Ship told reporters, the marines would carry out combat martial arts training, logistical and ground safety and riot control.
- Captain Cindy Thebaud said the marines would also partner with the AFL to deliver humanitarian assistance materials to local projects.
- According to the U.S. Navy official, the medical and educational supplies would be given to the Liberian government for distribution.
- She put the cost of the supplies at nearly one hundred fifty thousand US Dollars.
- US Ambassador to Liberia, Linda Thomas-Greenfield, said the initiative is part of her government's continuous assistance to Liberia.

### **Court Resumes Murder Case involving Couple**

- The Angel Tokpah murder case is expected to commence Tuesday at Criminal Court A.
- Judge Samuel Geevon-Smith assigned the case for hearing Monday after the reading of a Supreme Court mandate.
- In the mandate, the High Court ordered Court A to prioritize the trial of Hans and Mardea Williams.
- They were indicted nearly a year ago, in connection with the death of 13-year-old Angel Meideh Tokpah.
- The state resisted an attempt by the court to admit them to bail through a certiorari which the Supreme Court granted.
- Defense lawyers conceded because they did not want Hans and Mardea Williams to further linger in jail without trial.
- According to our judicial correspondent, Hans and Mardea Williams could make their first court appearance Tuesday if everything goes as scheduled.
- Judicial correspondents said any attempt by the State to ask for a delay to find witnesses could be resisted through a certiorari petition.

*(Also reported on Truth FM, Radio Veritas, Sky FM, and ELBC)*

### **Truth FM** *(News monitored at 2:00pm)*

### **Internal Affairs Minister Apologizes for ordering Disbursement of County Development Funds for personal Use**

- Internal Affairs Minister Ambulai Johnson has apologized for ordering the disbursement of Grand Cape Mount County Development Fund to pay the rental fees of the county's superintendent. Minister Johnson rendered his apology Tuesday when he appeared before the Plenary of the House of Representatives on charge of contempt.
- The House cited the Internal Affairs Minister for supposedly usurping the function of the Legislature in the expenditure of the development funds of Grand Cape Mount County.
- Minister Johnson last week said he approved a portion of the county's funds to settle the rental arrear of Superintendent Catherine Khasu.
- Public opinion has been divided since the minister admitted that the settlement of the arrear from the development funds was not the unilateral decision of the Superintendent.
- While others argued Minister Johnson played in the terrain of the Legislature, other sector of the public maintained appropriation was not in contention.
- According to this opinion, the Legislature has already apportioned what belonged to Grand Cape County and the National Legislature cannot dictate how it is expended.
- Meanwhile, Legislative analysts say the Internal Affairs Minister's meeting with the House would focus on the provision of residence of local authorities.
- The payment of rentals for County Superintendents has been in the National Budget until the National Legislature took it out in the 2008/2009 Budget.

- The Legislature however, retained allotments in the National Budget for the construction of residence for District Commissioners who work under the County Superintendents.

### **Head of Liberia's Anti-Corruption Commission attends Meeting in Rwandan**

- The Executive Chairperson of the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission is in the Rwandan Capital, Kigali.
- Cllr. Frances Johnson-Morris is attending the ad-hoc experts group meeting on National anti corruption institutions in Africa.
- Cllr. Johnson-Morris was invited by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa to attend the three-day event.
- The meeting is being held under the theme: Assessing the Efficiency and Impact of National Anti-corruption Institutions in Africa.

### **German Group to Train Liberia's Transport Ministry Staff**

- The German Technical Corporation will on Tuesday launch a Capacity Building Training in customer care and services for management staff at the Transport Ministry.
- According to a release, the exercise is a part of a capacity building package from the German Government towards Liberia's transport sector.
- The Government of Germany, through the GTZ, has offered to revamp the country's transport sector and train personnel involved with the sector.
- The release said the training would cover management, administration, computer and areas related to the transport sector.
- The release also said the rebuilding package contains wide range of technical assistance as well as human resource development activities.
- The Transport Ministry maintained that developing the transport sector is cardinal to the overall development of Liberia.

*(Also reported on Radio Veritas)*

\* \* \*

## The Phnom Penh Post

Wednesday, 18 February 2009

### Lawyers call for new Duch investigations

Written by Georgia Wilkins and Neth Pheaktra

Democratic Kampuchea policy of forced marriage is crime against humanity that requires investigation, say civil party co-lawyers.



Photo by: **AFP**

*A monk examines photos of former inmates at Phnom Penh's Tuol Sleng prison. Cambodia's UN-backed genocide tribunal on Tuesday opens the long-awaited trial of the Khmer Rouge's former prison chief Duch, the first person to face justice for the horrors 30 years ago.*

CO-LAWYERS for civil parties at the Khmer Rouge tribunal have urged the court to open new investigations into the role of Tuol Sleng prison chief Kaing Guek Eav in organising "forced marriages", a crime that has been recognised as a new, separate crime against humanity by international law.

In a press statement released over the weekend, lawyers said that there was sufficient evidence to link the prison chief, known by his communist name Duch, to organising "at least one mass wedding", and that it was thus necessary for the court to conduct "immediate and serious supplementary investigation".

"Since at least early 1977 ... weddings and prescription of sexual intercourse of couples were ordered and organised by senior leaders all over the country.

Forced marriages were clearly carried out as a matter of state policy," their submission to the court outlined.

"They were used statewide as a measure to weaken and attack Cambodian families, to produce more children to join Angkar's revolution and to control sexuality and reproductive power," it said.

"Hence, the crimes were committed as part of a widespread and systematic attack directed against the civilian population."

The crime of forced marriage, as it is linked to rape and enslavement on a mass scale, is a type of sexual violence that is punishable as a crime against humanity.

One of its main purposes, in light of the Khmer Rouge's intent to form a new society, was the intention of Democratic Kampuchea to have forced pregnancies.

"According to researchers, "[t]he leader of DK wanted to make sure that children were born who could continue the revolution. The main purpose of weddings, for the Khmer Rouge, was not to form family units, but to produce children who could serve the revolution," the submission said.

"The entire population that was not yet married and over 18 years old was a target of the attack," it added.

According to the lawyers' submission, Sierra Leone's war crimes court is the only international tribunal to have recognised forced marriage as a crime against humanity.

"The UN secretary general defined a forced marriage as one that 'lacks free and valid consent of at least one of the parties'.

"In its most extreme form, forced marriage can involve threatening behaviour, abduction, imprisonment, physical violence, rape and, in some cases, murder," the submission says.

"In light of the development in other international and internationalised tribunals including gender-related crimes in their jurisdictions, the ECCC should follow other Courts and recognise the dimension of such crimes and their impact on society," it adds.

Although the 67-year-old's trial begins Tuesday, lawyers say additional investigations would not delay proceedings.

"Investigations can be conducted besides the ongoing trial. This is a normal procedure," international co-lawyer for civil parties Silke Studzinsky told the Post.

She added that despite being a crime against humanity, forced marriages had not yet been properly investigated.

"Sexual violence, such as forced marriage, was never seriously investigated by this court. This approach is common in all courts - to neglect these crimes is typical," she said, adding that there were many reasons for this.

"There is a common perception that these crimes did not happen under the Khmer Rouge, so witnesses have never been asked about these issues," she said.

Co-lawyer for Duch, Francois Roux, said he welcomed the new submissions, but was unsure if it would be accepted by the trial chamber.

"I think the civil parties can request the new accusation as they want, but it is the Trial Chambers' job to make a decision," he told the Post.

Duch is currently charged with war crimes and crimes against humanity, along with domestic charges of premeditated murder and torture.



## Voice of America

Tuesday, 17 February 2009

### UN Probes Extrajudicial Killings In Kenya

By Derek Kilner  
Nairobi



AFP Photo

A United Nations official is in Kenya to investigate reports of unlawful executions. Human rights groups in the country have accused the police force, as well as the military, of numerous extrajudicial killings in the past two years, many in response to violence that followed the country's 2007 elections, or in pursuit of armed groups.

On Monday, at the start of a ten-day visit, Phillip Alston, the U.N.'s special rapporteur on extrajudicial killings met with Kenya's police commissioner and with human rights activists.

**Phillip Alston (file photo)**

Alston, an Australian law professor at New York University, is in the country to investigate reports of killings by the police and the military in quelling the unrest that followed disputed elections in December 2007, and in pursuit of armed groups in the country, including the Mungiki criminal gang, active in Nairobi and Central Kenya, and the Sabaot Land Defense Force, a militia in western Kenya.

"My mandate is to look at any unlawful killings that take place," he said. "Unlawful killings defined as the military or the police in particular, but also any killings that are carried out by others, by private actors but that are not adequately investigated, prosecuted and punished by the state."

Human rights groups, including the state-funded Kenya National Commission on Human Rights have documented numerous cases of disappearances, many related to a police campaign against the Mungiki, a gang that carried out a wave of violent attacks in 2007, and which was also involved in post-election clashes last year. The commission says many of those who have disappeared were last reported seen in police custody.

A police spokesman has admitted that some 3,000 disappearances have been reported, but the police have denied wrongdoing. Police have admitted to killing gangsters in shootouts, saying that such actions have broad public support in a country long plagued by violent crime.

A report by the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights also suggested that of the more than 1,000 people killed in post-election clashes from December 2007 to February 2008, hundreds may have been killed by police fire.

Prime Minister Raila Odinga has threatened strict punishment for officers guilty of extrajudicial killings. He has complained that many of his supporters were targeted by police during protests that followed the disputed presidential election.

Speaking to the KTN television station, the head of the human rights commission, Florence Jaoko, said unlawful killings sustain a 'culture of impunity.'

"Our argument has been that it is the government's responsibility to equip the police with all the required resources because you cannot have a shortcut to investigations," said Jaoko. "Execution cannot be an answer, because then you don't have the rule of law."

Alston said he will present his findings to the U.N. Human Rights Council.

"There will then be a report to the U.N. Human Rights Council, an official U.N. report that will provide an opportunity for dialogue with the government of Kenya," he said. "And I very much hope that my report will be a focus of further discussions both within Kenya and within the international community."

Alston's visit follows the rejection by Kenya's parliament last week of an effort to create a tribunal to try those suspected of organizing attacks following the 2007 elections. Some lawmakers have called for a U.N. tribunal to be set up in Kenya, similar to the special court in Sierra Leone, saying a local tribunal would be susceptible to political manipulation.

On Tuesday, lawyer Cecil Miller was chosen to head an interim electoral commission, which replaced the body that carried out the flawed 2007 vote.



**A man believed to be a protester is brought down by police dogs near the town of Kikuyu after a group from the Kikuyu tribe blocked the road connecting Kenya's capital with the Rift Valley town of Naivasha, 30 Jan 2008**