

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



The St. Edward's Secondary School band.

**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:**

Tuesday, 18 March 2008

Press clips are produced Monday through Friday.  
Any omission, comment or suggestion, please contact  
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### Local News

Kabbah May Testify at Special Court / <i>Concord Times</i>	Pages 3-4
Special Court Orders Kabbah to Testify / <i>Awoko</i>	Page 5

### International News

Terror Tactics Described at Taylor Trial / <i>The Star</i>	Page 6
Satanic Quotes: ‘Zigzag’ to Star Before TRC / <i>New Democrat</i>	Pages 7-8
Horrific testimony Emerges at Taylor Trial / <i>Legalbrief Today</i>	Page 9
Dogolea’s Crimes / <i>The Analyst</i>	Pages 10-11
Taylor and I Ate Their Hearts: Zigzag Marzah Horrifies Court / <i>New Democrat</i>	Pages 12-13
ECOMOG Aided Taylor? To Smuggle Arms / <i>Liberian Express</i>	Page 14
“The People I Killed Were Too Many” / <i>Heritage</i>	Pages 15-16
UNMIL Public Information Office Complete Media Summaries / <i>UNMIL</i>	Pages 17-19

Concord Times  
 Tuesday, 18 March 2008

# Kabbah may testify at Special Court

By Tanu  
 Jalloh

**D**efence team for indicted RUF leader Issa Hassan Sesay has filed a motion subpoenaing ex-president Alhaji Dr Ahmed Tejan Kabbah to testify on behalf of its client at the UN backed Special Court in Freetown.

If the writ commanding a person to appear in court to testify as a witness under Rule 54 of the rules of procedure and evidence is granted, Kabbah could be compelled to appear as a witness in the RUF trial and to meet with the defence in advance of his proposed testimony.

"Kabbah could give materials and substantially assist in proving Mr Sesay's innocence in regard to Counts 15-18 of the consolidated indictment. This

evidence is unique and could not be obtained from any other person," the defence team submitted.

In the application for the issuance of the writ, lead counsel Wayne Jordash and others claimed that they have made repeated attempts to contact Kabbah since 2004.

Meanwhile, in meetings held in 2007, he [Kabbah] was said to have indicated a willingness to be interviewed through his then chief of protocol Sullay Daramy but the defence argued that no such meetings has materialised.

It could be recalled that Moinina Fofana and Sam Hinga Norman of the Civil Defense Forces (CDF) also filed separate motions with The Trial

*Contd. page 3*



*Former President Kabbah*

## Kabbah may testify at Special Court

*From page 1*

Chamber I of the Special Court on 15 and 16 December 2005 respectively for the issuance of a subpoena ad testificandum to Kabbah, while he was still President of the Republic of Sierra Leone.

However, the Prosecution found that the Norman and Fofana defence had not met the relevant legal standard for the issuance of a subpoena and that there were no findings as to whether the then-President could be the subject of a subpoena.

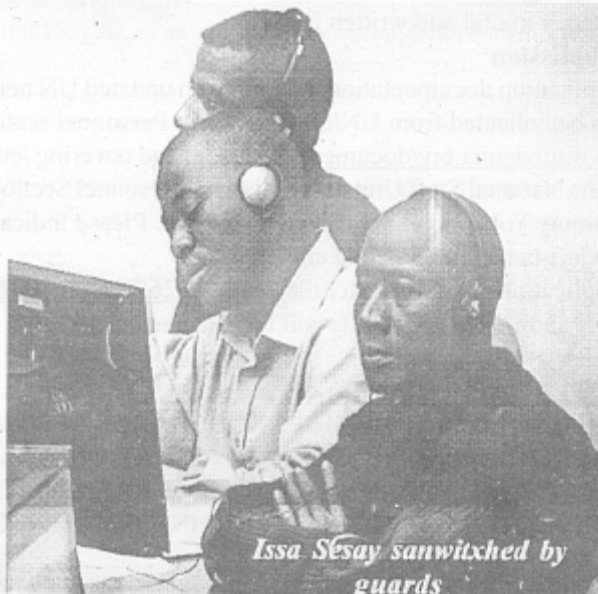
Section 48(4) of the Constitution of Sierra Leone, apparently the legal basis upon which the then President was defended, states that: "While any person holds or performs the functions of the office of the President, no civil or criminal proceedings shall

be instituted or continued against him in respect of anything done or omitted to be done by him either in his official or private capacity."

Even so, the defence team for Issa Sesay noted that "the plain reading of the said section dictates that any immunity from suit - qualified or otherwise - does not

contemplate its continuance following the completion of the term(s) of office."

In other words, the defence suggested that "if the Trial Chamber issued a subpoena to compel the attendance of Dr. Kabbah and he refuses to comply, his failure is an action taken as a private individual for which he enjoys no immunity from criminal sanction."



*Issa Sesay sandwiched by guards*

Awoko

Tuesday, 18 March 2008

# Special court orders Kabbah to testify

By Betty Milton

**F**irst accused Issa Hassan Sesay in the trial of the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) has successfully secured a court order to subpoena former president Kabbah to testify on his behalf. This was after the trial chamber ruled on Thursday March 13, 2008 that it was "satisfied that the application meets the required standard for the issuance of a subpoena"

The defence lawyers acting on behalf of Issa Sesay were asking for the issuance of a subpoena "on H.E. Alhaji Dr. Ahmad Tejan Kabbah, the former President of the Republic of Sierra Leone, for a pre-testimony interview and for testimony at this trial."

It will be recalled that the Appeals Chamber had rejected a request by the

defence lawyers for Hinga Norman in the Civil Defence Forces trial who was also asking for President Kabbah to testify on his behalf.

Apparently Issa Sesay's lawyers cleverly used the decision of the Appeals Court in its ruling against Hinga Norman, in getting the court to rule in their favour as can be seen in the present Court order stating that its ruling is based on the "enunciation" of "the Appeals Chamber in its decision on interlocutory appeals against Trial Chamber Decision Refusing to Subpoena the President of Sierra Leone dated 11<sup>th</sup> September 2006"

Earlier Issa Sesay's lead counsel Wayne Jordash told Awoko that the

application made by the defence team had "huge merit," and that the prosecution's response had none.

The purpose of the evidence of the ex-president he explained is to establish the fact that the accused did not order an attack or coordinate attacks against UNAMSIL troops.

The defence lawyer maintained that "Kabbah has full knowledge of Issa Sesay's innocence in this regard, he has refused to cooperate and ought to in the interest of justice be compelled."

The Special court order further stated that the former president shall testify if called as defence witness on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April this year.



The Star (Liberia)  
Tuesday, 18 March 2008

# Terror Tactics Described At Taylor Trial



Charles Taylor at the trial in the Hague.

Charles Taylor rewarded militia fighters who killed babies during West Africa's civil wars and called one woman's unborn child an "enemy" who must die, a former militia commander testified Wednesday.

During a grim day at Taylor's war crimes trial in

The Hague, Joseph "Zigzag" Marzah said he committed hundreds of murders on the former Liberian president's orders. He claimed Taylor celebrated his rise to power with a human sacrifice, burying a pregnant woman alive in sand.

"We executed everybody



Victims of the War

- babies, women, old men. There were so many executions. I can't remember them all," Marzah told the court.

Taylor, 59, is accused of orchestrating violence in neighboring Sierra Leone's civil war from his presidential palace in Liberia. He is accused of trading so-called "blood diamonds" to finance the war,

which ended in 2002.

Prosecutors described Marzah as one of their key witnesses, testifying with inside knowledge of Taylor's operations in Liberia and Sierra Leone, where he is accused of responsibility for the murders, rapes and amputations

TURN TO PAGE 6

## Terror Tactics Described

committed by fighters loyal to him.

The first former African head of state to face an international tribunal, Taylor has pleaded not guilty to 11 charges of war crimes and crimes against humanity. He is being tried by the U.N.-backed Special Court for Sierra Leone.

Among Taylor's victims were opponents and allies accused of betrayal, Marzah said.

"Taylor ordered one guerrilla commander known as Su-bonah executed and had his severed hand brought to him as proof of his death, the witness said. The killer, originally an Superman's heart, and afterward were given \$200 each. They were told it was 'cigarette money' for Taylor.

Taylor often listened forward with a sword as he listened to Marzah's testimony for more than five hours.

Asked under cross-examination if he had any "pangs of conscience," Marzah replied "yes," but said he had not disobeyed Taylor's orders. "It was a sin to my shield, Charles Taylor," he said.

He was adamant that Taylor had specifically ordered him to chop off hands, and paid a monetary reward to those who killed babies. He recalled receiving an order from Taylor to cut open a woman close to giving birth because the unborn child "is an enemy."

Under prompting from defense counsel Courtenay Griffin, Marzah said, "It's not difficult to kill a baby. Sometimes you just knock them on the head, sometimes you throw them in a pit, sometimes you throw them in the river and they are dead. Then you give the report to Charles Taylor."

Marzah said Taylor celebrated his rise to power on the beach behind White Flower, his executive mansion in the Liberian capital of Monrovia. He said a pregnant woman was placed standing up in a pit between two oil drums and covered with sand. Then a white sheep was killed on the spot,

said. Taylor "was the first person to put sand in his hand and put it in the hole."

Marzah said the event happened in 1995, even though Taylor did not come to power until he won an election in 1997.

At other times, Marzah became frustrated and angry when questioned about the timing of events, saying he had been with Taylor "from beginning to end" and had done too much to recall every date.

Marzah described militia checkpoints meant to terrorize the population, with human heads mounted on poles and human intestines used as logs to barricade roads.

"We put heads on sticks for people to be afraid. When the person is executed, the stomach is split and you use the intestine as a rope," he said. Marzah said he saw Taylor pass through such checkpoints at least eight times.

Taylor's National Patriotic Liberian Front was killed on several occasions to show no mercy to enemies, said Marzah.

"He made us understand that you have to play with human blood so enemy forces would be afraid of you," he said.

Marzah described himself as Taylor's chief of operations and commander of the Death Squad, which specialized in executions. He said he smuggled both arms and diamonds for Taylor.

Marzah also described intercepting a four-vehicle convoy when Taylor was a rebel commander before his rise to power. The convoy was believed to be carrying Liberia's then-President Samuel Doe, but Doe was not there. Taylor was called for instructions.

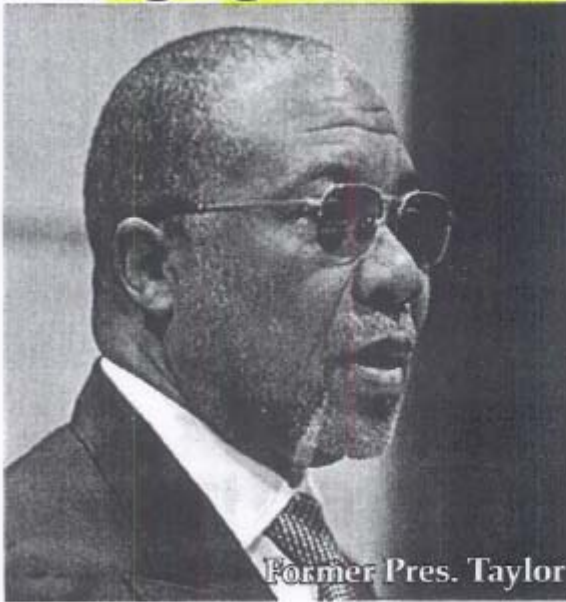
Taylor "said to execute them with knives," Marzah said. "There were about 72 of them, and we executed them with knives the same day."

Marzah said the ambush was happened shortly before Doe was killed in Monrovia in September 1990.

New Democrat (Liberia)  
 Tuesday, 18 March 2008

# Satanic Quotes

## 'Zigzag' To Star Before TRC



Former Pres. Taylor

**Z**igzag Marzah has completed testimony before the court trying his former chief, Charles Taylor, in The Hague, with grisly details of cannibalism, splitting pregnant women's stomachs, and throwing babies in pits, all at the orders of Mr Taylor, he told the court. He said he is now preparing to return home from The Netherlands, and stand before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission with more truths of his activities.

Defence lawyer Courtenay Griffiths: I suggest you're crossing yourself because under oath you've lied. And you've been lying for the last three days.

Zigzag Marzah: I'm saying the truth. From here you will see me appear before the TRC of Liberia - the Truth and Reconciliation Commission." (See 6 & 7)





## Legalbrief Today

Monday, 17 March 2008

### **Horrific testimony emerges at Taylor trial**

Published in: [Legalbrief Africa](#)

Date: [Mon 17 March 2008](#)

Category: [Liberia](#)

Issue No: [272](#)

A former comrade-in-arms of Charles Taylor told judges at the former Liberian President's war-crimes trial that Taylor ordered him to take arms to Sierra Leone rebels and exchange them for diamonds, says a [Mail & Guardian Online](#) report.

Joseph Marzah, also known as Zigzag, told the court that in the early 1990s he went to Sierra Leone about 40 times with transports carrying AK-47 assault rifles and rockets. 'Sometimes, we got ammunition from White Flower (Taylor's presidential residence) or a Russian plane ... By Charles Taylor's directive, I sometimes would take some straight to Sierra Leone,' Marzah (49) said. According to the prosecution of the Special Court for Sierra Leone, Taylor controlled rebel Revolutionary United Front forces who went on a rampage of killing, mutilation and rape funded by blood diamonds during the 1991 to 2001 civil war. About 120 000 people were killed in the conflict, with rebels mutilating thousands more, cutting off arms, legs, ears or noses. At the time of the charges in the indictment, Marzah was a fighter in Taylor's National Patriotic Front of Liberia. [The Guardian](#) reports that Marzah said the former Liberian President ordered his fighters to eat their enemies, including UN peacekeepers, as a means of terrorising the population. He also testified that he oversaw horrific crimes such as cutting the babies out of pregnant women, and that the former President told his men that their enemies 'are no longer human beings'. Marzah said many of the victims of cannibalism were members of the Krahn people of the then Liberian President, Samuel Doe, who Taylor was attempting to overthrow. But those eaten also included soldiers from UN and West African 'Ecomog' peacekeeping forces. Taylor faces charges of rape, murder, mutilation and recruitment of child soldiers. In harrowing testimony, Marzah told of an ingrained culture of brutality among Taylor's henchmen. Former rebel leaders who fell out of favour with Taylor met horrific ends.

[First Mail & Guardian Online report](#)

[Second Mail & Guardian Online report](#)

[Full report in The Guardian](#)

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# Dogolea's Crimes

**- He Allegedly Liaised With The Americans  
- Witness Says He Partook In His Beating**

If the saying "A truth crushed to the ground shall rise up" is anything to go by, then the rumors that inundated that former Vice President Enoch Dogolea died from beating holds ground. This is evidenced by revelations made someone who claimed to have participated in his torture. Witness Joseph D. "Zigzag" Marzah during cross-examination by the defense confessed that former President Taylor ordered the beating of his Vice President Enoch Dogolea because he was allegedly liaising with the American Government. The Analyst brings you details of his cross-examination.

Joseph D. "Zigzag" Marzah has recounted that former Vice President Enoch Dogolea died from the beating he endured upon the orders of his former boss, former President Charles Taylor. Dogolea died in 2000 in an Ivoirian Clinic following an ephemeral sickness. Following his death, speculations inundated that he died from beating.

Responding to questions from the defense of accused Charles Taylor, he did not waiver nor slumber. Excerpts From his cross-examination  
**Def:** There are a couple of matters to clear up before I put my case to you. You told us about the beating to death of Vice President Enoch Dogoleah?

**Wit:** Yes.  
**Def:** You were involved in that?  
**Wit:** Yes, I told you Taylor said Dogoleah was trying to liaise with the American government. Taylor passed orders to Yeaten in my presence. They pretended to travel together. They took Dogolea in a tinted car and took him to Yeaten's, where he

was beaten. Yeaten kept him there for three days.  
**Def:** When was that?  
**Wit:** I can't remember the time. When Taylor was president in Mourovia.  
**Def:** At Yeaten's address?  
Apart from his revelations as to what happened to Dogolea, witness Marzah also encountered questions on other issues he raised



Charles Taylor: Allegedly Ordered His Vice President's Beating

Cont'd on page 10



## Dogolea's Crimes

in his testimony

Def: You were telling us that you're a substantial property owner and businessman?

Wit: Yes.

Def: Did you get the money to set up that business from arms dealing?

Wit: No.

Def: Where did you get it from?

Wit: I got it from serving the government. And my wife is a businesswoman, and I have my own credit union.

Def: You set up that business solely from your earnings as a soldier under Doe and Taylor?

Wit: What I have is what my wife controls. My business and my wife's business are not separate.

Def: You told us she has a large business. What kind?

Wit: She sells dry goods and palm oil from our palm oil factory. Apart from that we have cement she sells by bags. We sell rice and dry goods. Apart from that we have our own credit union and we have over 75 people who contribute towards it. We take the money from the credit union to buy goods and make more profit. People own credit in the club. They get profit from what they give. Those are some of the businesses. During Taylor's regime, we even fought the war from Nimba up to Buchanan. Any safe we took by his directive we took to him. We took 7 safes from RIA airport to Taylor in Gbama. He gave me over 87,000 US dollars. Mosquito used to give me up to 1 million Leones when we brought diamonds.

Def: You made money from the Sierra Leone war?

Wit: Yes, through Charles Taylor.

Def: So the 3,417,000 in local currency given to you by the prosecution is not much for you?

Wit: I did not receive 3 million from anybody.

Def: These are the prosecution records. You've received [reads a series of figures in different figures]. That's not a lot of money to you?

Wit: I did not receive such an amount. What I received, I will tell you if it is true. What I get was through myself and the struggle behind Charles Taylor. When we took the big diamond to Taylor he gave me an envelope with 2,000 dollars in it.

Def: I'm going by the records by the prosecution. You also received an additional 3,316,000 Leones?

Wit: Leones? I don't know the difference of the Leone. I know US dollars and Liberian dollars. 300,000 Leones is 100 US dollars. If it's Leones, maybe it could be true.

Wit: Not Yeaten's address. Behind Taylor's house, in front of Yeaten's house.

Def: Did Issa Sesay take diamonds to Charles Taylor?

Wit: One that I know about. He and I made a trip. Joe Tuoh used to go with him.

Def: You spoke of an occasion when you went with Bookarie to disarm some UN soldiers. When was that?

Wit: When Issa was in control of RUF. Taylor ordered us and we were reinforced with manpower and enough ammo, and we carried out the disarmament in Freetown. Issa Sesay came.

Def: You said Bookarie. Did you go with Bookarie to disarm some UN forces?

Wit: Bookarie was not in Sierra Leone during the UN deployment. It was Issa who was in Sierra Leone during the UN deployment. No, I did not go with Bookarie to disarm UN forces.

Def: You told us Wednesday you did.

Wit: No, I told you I went with Bookarie to disarm ECOMOG troops earlier in Sierra Leone.

Def: You told us about a massacre at Carter Camp at Harbel. Are you aware that the UN conducted an investigation of that, and that the investigation found that the forces responsible were the Armed Forces of Liberia?

Wit: I told you about the massacre.

Def: You suggested Taylor was responsible?

Wit: Yes.

Def: Were you aware that there was a UN investigation that found the AFL to be responsible?

Wit: I know about it, but I had no alternative to say any other thing. I could not get up during his administration and say it was the NPFL. I would have been dealt with.

Def: So you assumed he must be responsible because it was during the administration of Charles Taylor?

Wit: I'll tell you the truth. The massacre was a directive from Charles Taylor.

Def: You're just willing to attribute any bad thing that happened to Charles Taylor?

Wit: No, I'm here to tell the truth. I can't say any other thing about my former leader.

Def: (references document): "witness stated Taiwanese used to send arms, ammunition and uniforms through Gus Kouwenhouven. The ships docked further out at sea." Is that right?

Wit: It's right, but it wasn't the Port of Monrovia. It was Buchanan. The boats would come and take the arms and ammunition, then load the ships with timber.

Def: How did you come to know about this?

Wit: I told you - I was chief of operations under Taylor. Even before then, he and I and very few others passed through.

Def: (displays a photo to the court)

Wit: I recall an old man who used to wear shades. This is the man who used to be at Buchanan port.

Def: You met him there? You picked up arms from him?

Wit: Yes, so many times.

Def: How many times?

Wit: I met Mr. Gus at Buchanan Port, even though I can't recall the dates, it could be more than ten times. I was supposed to go on assignment with him. I made so many trips with him. I can't explain them all. This man and another tall, big man with a big stomach - I saw this man and the other man move together.

Def: How many trips did that man make on ships bringing arms and ammunition into Buchanan?

Wit: I was not present for all these trips.

Def: How many times did you meet him in Buchanan Port?

Wit: This man is a good man to me, even though he did extremely well for me by offering me money - Mike Captain (?) - his chief of security. He was my junior officer.

Judge Doherty: That was not the question.

Wit: I met Mr. Gus over 5-6-7 times. If he said over 15 times, he would be telling a lie. But it was over five times.

Def: Each occasion was to receive arms from him?

Wit: Not all the times. The time he came with his friend with the big stomach I went to escort him. I received weapons more than three times.

Def: On how many times did you receive arms from Gus at Buchanan Port?

Wit: I said he himself was present more than three times. Each time we went, his chief of security, Mike Captain (?) was there. He was present. I was present. Over 3-4 times.

Def: On each of those occasions it was a large shipment of arms that arrived?

Wit: The ship would be over the sea, across the sea. The quantity of the ammo that I saw, sometimes they were in the speedboats. The big boat was over the ocean, Mike Captain and others would go and bring them, then put them in my car. Sometimes I took them from a warehouse. I can't tell how much.

Def: Truckloads?

Wit: I made the trip with the Mack truck on three different occasions. We took them to White Flower, Taylor's residence.

Def: Were you escorted by ECOMOG troops, escorted by Victor?

Wit: No.

Def: How did you get them there?

Wit: It was not the time of

Def: (references document) I suggest you're a liar.

Wit: I am not a liar. If I were a liar I was going to accept a closed session to explain these things. I decided to do it in the open session so the public would see I'm telling you the truth.

Def: I suggest you've never sat with Taylor and never received orders from him.

Wit: I'm saying the facts.

Def: I suggest you've never spoken to him on either the phone or radio.

Wit: I spoke to him so many times, even before he established the Poro society where we ate people's livers.

The reason why Taylor trusted me was the Poro society law. I started sitting with Taylor during the death of Fiah Doe (?) and we ate his liver.

The same thing happened with Sam Dokie. This woman Annie Yerie (?), she cooked the liver and Taylor shared it with us. He trusted me.

Even the time he escaped from Ghana and we arrested Moses Blah, he was there in Ben's veranda, and he said we should control those hearts until he came. When Taylor arrived, we took it and shared it.

Def: Have you got a fascination with eating human flesh?

Wit: Because what I'm saying, he and I passed through so many things that he trusts me. We ate human beings together. If you ask him he will tell you.

Def: You never spoke to Taylor on the phone or the radio, did you?

Wit: I did. I spoke with him on the phone and radio. We shook hands.

We ate together in the Poro society to safeguard our secret.

Def: When you say, Taylor gave orders to do anything, you're assuming he did because he was president of Liberia?

Wit: Yes, I'm talking about more than the presidency. It was not because he was president of Liberia. I'm telling the truth.

Def: I suggest you did whatever you did without orders from Taylor.

Wit: During Taylor's administration, there was no man to say he would do things his own way. Now I have disclosed to you the secrets of my poro society. Now I will no longer be a member. That is the secret, and that made him Dhakphana (sp?)

Judge Sebutinde: What do you mean?

Wit: Dhakphana is the big man who gives orders in the Poro society. That is his poro society name. When you look at his face you will be shrouded in fear. He had authority.

Def: For what?

Wit: In order to control the republic.

Def: Are you saying you did all those wicked things out of fear?

Wit: We did it. It was because I was afraid and I was a part of it.

Def: Why are you crossing yourself? Is it because you've lied under oath?

Witness: I have broken the laws of my poro society. Everything has been exposed.

Defenses: I suggest you're crossing yourself because under oath you've lied. And you've been lying for the last three days.

Witness: I'm saying the truth. From here you will see me appear before the TRC of Liberia - the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

Defense has no further questions. Prosecution has no questions on re-examination.

Judge Doherty: The bench has no questions for the witness.

One defense and one prosecution are formally entered into evidence.

Judge Doherty thanks and excuses the witness.

Prosecution: The prior witness (Isaac Mangor) is not available. We suggest we resume after the recess.

Defense agrees.

Presiding Judge Doherty: Court will adjourn early. The judicial recess begins on Monday. The trial will resume on March 31.

## Liberia's Capacity Building

services based on stated terms.

The graduation of the six Liberian participants of the course was attended by Commerce Minister Cllr. Frances Johnson Morris who thanked the Nigerian Government for its continuous sisterly assistance to Liberia's post war recovery. She used the opportunity to tour some industries producing world standard products both for domestic consumption and export and saw first hand, how quality inspectors assure the standards of the products. Responding, the Director General of the Standards Organization of Nigeria, Dr. John Ndamusa Akanya said African

inferior products by industrialized countries who would not allow the same products to be used by their people. He added that Nigeria would stand by Liberia at all times.

With over forty Trainers, Assessors and Lead Assessors in standards certification, Nigeria has led other African countries in this respect. This has enabled the Standards Organization of Nigeria to intercept millions of dollars worth of goods from being dumped in Nigeria by foreign manufacturers.

It would be recalled that both countries signed a Memorandum of Understanding last year to train Liberian officials to stop the indiscriminate dumping of sub-standard goods in the country. The training was to be done by the Nigerian



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Monday, 17 March 2008

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# Taylor & I Ate Their Hearts

## ZIGZAG MARZAH HORRIFIES COURT

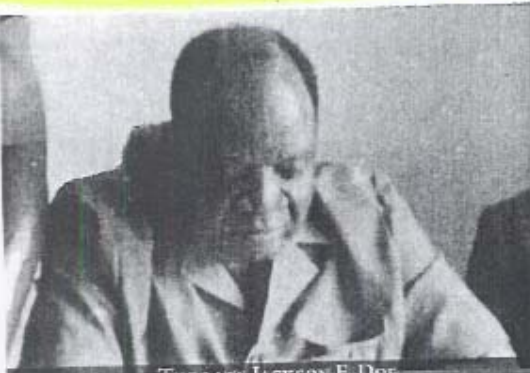
**T**he hearts and livers of late opposition politicians Jackson F. Doe and Sam Dokie, were ordered cooked after their executions, with former President Charles Taylor and his loyalists eating them in cannibalist ritual, Zigzag Marzah,



FORMER PRES. BLAH

a key witness in the ongoing trial, has revealed. He also asserted that Enoch Dogoleah, vice president under Taylor, was ordered flogged, leaving him to die in the Ivory Coast. He said Moses Blah, then the

Page 3



THE LATE JACKSON F. DOE



THE LATE SAM DOKIE



CHARLES TAYLOR IN THE HAGUE



# Taylor & I Ate Their Hearts

next vice president, was arrested on Taylor's orders with threats to cook and eat his heart as well.

Testifying Friday, Mr Marzah, also from Nimba County as the two listed victims, said a woman called Annie Yenie cooked the two men's hearts on Taylor's orders.

But defence lawyer Courtenay Griffiths, in his cross-examination, insisted Marzah committed these atrocities outside Taylor's orders. To this, Marzah insisted no one in Taylor's circle acted outside his authority, and that all actions were taken based on his direct orders.

(Excerpts of the exchange between Mr Courtenay and Mr Marzah, courtesy blog "The Trial of Charles Taylor")

Def: You're just willing to attribute any bad thing that happened to Charles Taylor?

Wit: No. I'm here to tell the truth. I can't say any other thing about my former leader.

Wit: I spoke to him so many times, even before he established the poro society where we ate people's lives. The reason why Taylor trusted me was the poro society law. I started sitting with Taylor during the death of Fia Doe (?) and we ate his liver. The same thing happened with Sam Dokie. This woman Annie Yenie (?) she cooked the liver and Taylor shared it with us. He trusted me. Even the time he escaped from Ghana and we arrested Moses Blah, he was there in Ben's veranda, and he said we should control those hearts until he came. When Taylor arrived, we took it and shared it.

Def: Have you got a fascination with eating human flesh?

Wit: Because what I'm saying, he and I passed through so many things that he trusts me. We ate human beings together. If you ask him he will tell you.

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THE LATE JANETTE & SAM DOKIE

Def: I suggest you did whatever you did without orders from Taylor.

Wit: During Taylor's administration, there was no man to say he would do things his own way. Now I have disclosed to you the secrets of my poro society. Now I will no longer be a member. That is the secret, and that made him Dhakphana (sp?)

Def: (references document) "witness stated Taiwanese used to send arms, ammunition and uniforms through Gus Kouwenhoven. The ships docked further out at sea." Is that right?

Wit: It's right, but it wasn't the port of Monrovia. It was Buchanan. The boats would come and take the arms and ammunition, then load the ships with timber.

Def: How did you come to know about this?

Wit: I told you - I was chief of operations under Taylor. Even before then, he and I and very few others passed through.

Prosecution witness Joseph D. "Zigzag" Marzah concluded his testimony in dramatic fashion today, ahead of a two-week break in the trial. Angered by defense counsel suggestions that he was never close to Charles Taylor, Marzah alleged that he, Taylor and Benjamin Yeaten were all in the same poro society (a traditional West African secret religious society) and that Taylor himself had eaten human hearts with him on multiple occasions. Marzah appeared shaken and crossed himself, explaining that he had broken

the laws of his poro society and exposed its secrets.

Throughout the day, Lead Defense Counsel Courtenay Griffiths continued to point to discrepancies between Marzah's testimony and earlier statements he had given to the prosecution. Griffiths also continued to argue that Marzah was not senior enough in the NPFL to have taken orders from Taylor, that arms shipments from Liberia to Sierra Leone would have been impossible while ECOMOG peacekeepers controlled the roads and airports, and that Marzah was simply lying. Griffiths suggested that prosecution payments to Marzah gave him a rea-

testified that some Nigerians with ECOMOG assisted the onward delivery of weapons and ammunition to Sierra Leone, in connivance with Taylor.

Marzah couldn't say where this Nigerian Captain, Victor, had lived, at which point Griffiths asked why he wouldn't know such a thing if Marzah had really been as important as he claimed. Marzah replied that he was the third highest official in Liberia after Taylor and Yeaten due to their shared membership in a poro society. At this point, he said that he had eaten human beings with Charles Taylor.

Griffiths asked Marzah why he

Griffiths to ask security about phone if he wanted to.

When Griffiths suggested Marzah was testifying in exchange for payments from the prosecution, Marzah said he had a large and rubber farm, and that his wife ran several businesses that the amounts from the prosecution to cover his expenses meant to him. Griffiths suggested Marzah got the money for the and the businesses through pi arms dealing. Marzah replied he made his money while was as a soldier in the Doe and I regimes, and stated he had received large payments from Taylor, including one after seven safes were stolen at Roberts International Airfield taken to Taylor at Gbarnga.

Griffiths recalled Marzah's testimony about Taylor being responsible for the Camp Carter massacre at Harbel, and asked if he was aware that a United Nations investigation found it to be the responsibility of the Armed Forces of Liberia. Marzah insisted that he had been responsible, but there was no way he would have told the investigators about NPFL involvement during Taylor's administration he would have been "dealt with".

Marzah described Taiwanese deliveries brought by Gus Kouwenhoven in ships after Taylor had elected president. Griffiths went into evidence a recent ruling by a Dutch appeals court that overturned Kouwenhoven's conviction of bringing the arms embargo on Liberia asserted that Marzah was lying.

Allegation that Taylor engage cannibalism

Griffiths put to Marzah that he never sat with Taylor and received orders from him, and that he never spoken with Taylor on phone or radio. Marzah responded heatedly that he spoke to Taylor many times, even before he established the poro society where they ate people's lives.

(In earlier testimony, Marzah stated that when said "liver", he meant the human heart.) Marzah continued, saying that the reason Taylor trusted him was because of the poro society. He said that Taylor had participated in eating the heart of Fia Doe; Sam Dokie, and named a woman whom he said had cooked Dokie's heart for them. He continued, saying that when Taylor escaped from Ghana, he had called Yeaten to prepare two hearts, and the three shared them upon his return.

Griffiths again put to Marzah that he had never spoken with Taylor on the phone or radio, or taken orders from him. Marzah said that they together in the poro society "to safeguard our secret". He stated, "No have disclosed to you the secrets of my poro society", and said he was no longer be a member. He said Taylor had been the Dankpannah, a big man who gives orders in the poro society. "When you look at his face you will be shrouded in fear. He has authority." Marzah crossed himself and Griffiths asked whether he was crossing himself because he had lied under oath. Marzah answered that he had broken the laws of the poro society, and that everything has been exposed.

had never previously mentioned this bribery scheme relating to ECOMOG to prosecution investigators. Marzah answered that there was so much to tell about what he had done, and that he answered questions as they came.

Griffiths asked Marzah about the UN-supervised disarmament at the time of the interim government. Marzah testified that only the "ugly" (damaged) weapons had been destroyed, and that Taylor had ordered the good weapons buried, and transport some to Gbarnga. They had been assisted in this by the Nigerian officer, Victor.

Griffiths suggested that Marzah was lying about taking arms and ammunition to Sierra Leone for Taylor, that in 1996-1997 this would have been impossible due to the ECOMOG presence, and that any weapons Marzah had sold to the RUF had been done privately for his own gain. Marzah denied lying, and testified that anyone acting without Taylor's orders would have been risking their life.

Other defense challenges

In the late morning, Griffiths asked Marzah if he had been using his mobile phone during bathroom breaks in the previous days' testimony to receive instructions from someone outside the courtroom. Marzah said his phone hadn't worked since the beginning of his testimony, and he was angry about that because he couldn't even call his family. He said court security had told him that his phone would not function again until his testimony was over. He told



Liberian Express (Liberia)  
Monday, 17 March 2008

# ECOMOG AIDED TAYLOR?

## *To Smuggle Arms*



Former President Charles Taylor

War crimes trial involving President Charles Taylor has gone on a two-week judicial recess beginning today to resume March 31 in The Hague.

Prosecution witness "Zigzag" Marzah ended his testimony, with accusation but was rebutted that Taylor ate human hearts. It was followed by claims that soldiers of the West African Peace Monitoring Group (ECOMOG) connived with Taylor to supply arms to Sierra Leone.

Marzah accusation angered the defense counsel who contended that the witness was never close to Taylor, but Marzah alleged that he, Taylor and Benjamin Yentem were all in the same Poro society and that Taylor himself had eaten human hearts with him on multiple occasions.

Marzah appeared shaken and crossed himself, explaining that he had broken the laws of his Poro society and exposed its secrets.

Throughout the cross-examination, Lead Defense Counsel Courtenay Griffiths continued to point to discrepancies between Marzah's testimony and earlier statements he had given to the prosecution. Griffiths argued that Marzah was not senior enough in the NPFL to have taken orders from Taylor, that arms shipments from Liberia to Sierra Leone would have been impossible while ECOMOG peacekeepers controlled the roads and airports, and that Marzah was simply lying.

Griffiths suggested that prosecution payments to Marzah gave him a reason to lie about Taylor.

At one point during the morning, the court went into a brief private session when Griffiths wanted to pose questions to the witness that raised witness pro-

tection concerns.

Griffiths asked Marzah about the period of the interim government in Liberia, and Marzah agreed that in 1996-1997 there were many peacekeepers from the Economic Community of West African States in Liberia, although he couldn't

say how many. Marzah agreed that these mostly Nigerian ECOMOG peacekeepers were based at Roberts International Airfield, the Buchanan Port, and stationed at checkpoints along all major and minor roads in the country.

See Story on Page 5

## Heritage

Monday, 17 March 2008

# “The People I Killed Were Too Many”

## ...Former NPFL fighter tells TRC

**A** FORMER FIGHTER of the defunct National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) confessed Thursday that he killed dozens of people in the 1990s during the group's occupation of south eastern Liberia.

Now visually impaired and physically deformed, the fighter said following the killings other fighters extracted parts from the dead and ate them.

“They used to eat it. They called it Solaline. They used to cut the human parts and eat them. When

they will eat it,” 42 years old Barduse Sarrkoh told commissioners of Liberia's Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) during Public Hearings at the Greenville City Hall in Sinoe County.

But Barduse said he did not eat human beings during his decade long stint with the NPFL, saying only fighters from the Gio ethnic group engaged in the act of cannibalism.

“When we were fighting, we will meet group of people and my

when he gave me orders I will kill them. So one day while we were killing, there was one guy who bullet could not do anything to

and I caught him and slaughtered him,” the former rebel fighter now a traditional street musician on the streets of Greenville boastfully testified.

At Camp Nama, Barduse explained he captured

scores of people and brought them to Greenville, Sinoe County where he was ordered by his commander one ‘General Noriega’ to execute them.

He said they were all

See Page 6

# Why Kendeja Should Be Relocated Quickly

See Page 6

### The People

From Front Page

brought to the Greenville City Hall where they were killed (execution style).

“Noriega gave me orders on many occasions and I had to kill people on many occasions. The people I killed were too many,” Barduse then alias ‘Rebel Manley’ who said he held the rank of major in Charles Taylor's NPFL told a bewildered audience in the crowded city hall.

Apparently feeling remorseful for his actions, Barduse expressed sorrow for the mass killings saying he was fooled by other fighters.

“I am feeling bad. Those Gio guys fooled me, at the time we were hungry and we had no food and we were fooled to do a lot of things to people. I am feeling bad because I did not kill until they fooled me,” he continued.

The TRC is an independent body set up to investigate the root causes of the Liberian crisis, document human rights violations, review the history of Liberia, and put all human rights abuses that occurred during the period 1979 to 2003 on record. The TRC mandate is to also identify victims

and perpetrators and make recommendations on amnesty, prosecution and reparation.

The public hearings which ended for south eastern Liberia Friday in Greenville, Sinoe County is being held under the theme: “Confronting Our Difficult Past for a Better Future.” The hearings will resume in a fortnight in Cestos City, Rivercess County.



len at Roberts International Airfield, and taken to Taylor at Gbarnga.

Griffiths recalled Marzah's earlier testimony about Taylor being responsible for the Carter Camp massacre at Harbel and asked him if he was aware that the United Nations investigation found it to be the responsibility of the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL). Marzah insisted that Taylor had been responsible, but there was no way he would have told the investigators about NPFL involvement during Taylor's administration or he would have been "dealt with".

Marzah described Taiwanese arms deliveries brought by Gus Kouwenhoven in ships after Taylor had been elected president. Griffiths entered into evidence a recent ruling by a Dutch appeals court that overturned Kouwenhoven's conviction of breaking the arms embargo on Liberia and asserted that Marzah was lying.

Griffiths put to Marzah that he had never sat with Taylor and received orders from him, and that he had never spoken with Taylor on the phone or radio. Marzah responded heatedly that he spoke to Taylor "so many times, even before he established the Poro society where we ate people's livers". (In earlier testimony, Marzah stated that when he said "liver", he meant the human heart.) Marzah continued, saying that the reason Taylor trusted him was because of the Poro society law. He said that Taylor had participated in eating the heart of Fiah Doe and Sam Dokie, and named a woman whom he said had cooked Dokie's heart for them. He continued, saying that when Taylor escaped from Ghana, he had called Yeaten to prepare two hearts, and the three had shared them upon his return.

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Meanwhile, Marzah has promised to appear before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) to tell his story.

## ECOMOG AIDE

Even before Griffiths challenge Marzah about how he could have shipped weapons and ammunition to the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) in Sierra Leone at Taylor's orders if ECOMOG controlled these routes, Marzah alleged that some Nigerian officers in ECOMOG were corrupt and had been bribed by Taylor. Specifically, he testified that Nigerian captain named Victor (no General Victor Malu, he said) had been assigned to Taylor's residence, and had arranged for Taylor and his men to transport weapons through the airport, and past checkpoints in ECOMOG vehicles. Marzah couldn't recall the officer's surname, but said he had been shot and wounded in an attack on the Executive Mansion.

Marzah testified that some Nigerians with ECOMOG assisted the onward delivery of weapons and ammunition to Sierra Leone in connivance with Taylor. Marzah couldn't say where this Nigerian Captain, Victor, had lived, at which point Griffiths asked why he wouldn't know such a thing if Marzah had really been as important as he claimed. Marzah replied that he was the third highest official in Liberia after Taylor and Yeaten due to their shared membership in a Poro society. At this point, he said that he had eaten human beings with Taylor.

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When Griffiths suggested that Marzah was testifying in exchange for payments from the prosecution, Marzah said he had a large palm and rubber farm, and that he and his wife ran several businesses, so that the amounts from the prosecution to cover his expenses meant little to him. Griffiths suggested that Marzah got the money for the farm and the businesses through private arms dealing. Marzah replied that he made his money while working as a soldier in the Doe and Taylor regimes, and stated he had received large payments from Taylor, including one after seven safes were sto-

The IMF said that a separate news release regarding the deliberations on its Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) qualifications will be issued jointly with the World Bank following consideration of them by the Bank's executive board, which was expected early next week.

"Liberia has fulfilled the requirements to reach the decision point under the Enhanced HIPC Initiative," Portugal said.

Portugal said that the government of Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf's medium-term economic policy framework "is appropriately aligned with the government's Poverty Reduction Strategy."

"Liberia has also made good progress in strengthening governance," he added. The country is recovering from 14 years of a brutal civil war that killed 270,000 people and ended in 2003 after former warlord-turned-president Charles Taylor stepped down from power.

United Nations  Nations Unies

United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL)

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**UNMIL Public Information Office Complete Media Summaries  
17 March 2008**

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

**Newspaper Summary**

**IMF Clears Liberia, Approves Financial Aid**

(The News, The Inquirer, The Informer, Liberian Express, Daily Observer, Heritage, Public Agenda and the New Democrat)

- The International Monetary Fund on Friday fully restored Liberia's IMF status and approved 900 million dollars in immediate financial support to the impoverished African country. The IMF said its executive board agreed "to fully normalize financial relations after more than two decades of protracted arrears" by Liberia to the 185-nation institution.
- The decisions also enabled the IMF to pledge financial support of some 952 million dollars to Liberia. The executive board's decisions allow an immediate disbursement to Liberia of some 900 million dollars, while the remaining 52 million will be drawn in six installments.
- "Liberia reached an important milestone today in normalizing its financial relations with the IMF by clearing its long overdue financial obligations," said Murilo Portugal, IMF deputy managing director. The suspension of Liberia's rights to use IMF aid was lifted after overdue obligations to the IMF were cleared through a bridge loan amounting to 888 million dollars.

**Cabinet Takes Retreat to Rural Liberia**

(New Democrat, The News, The Inquirer, The Informer, Liberian Express, Daily Observer, Heritage, Public Agenda and)

- President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf led her cabinet to the provincial city of Voinjama in Lofa County where she will conduct her regular cabinet meeting. According to the New Democrat newspaper, cabinet meetings are normally conducted in Monrovia, but the President has begun rotating the meetings to rural counties. The first was held in Harper, Maryland County last year.
- An Executive Mansion release issued in Monrovia says the four-day cabinet retreat takes place tomorrow Tuesday in Voinjama, Lofa County.
- The retreat is intended for Ministers to review and discuss development initiatives under the four pillars of government and to look at a national food and nutrition strategy for the country.
- The cabinet will also look at the national budget for 2008/2009, Civil Service and payroll plus a used car policy proposed by the General Services Agency (GSA).
- While in Lofa, the President and delegation will participate in the dedicatory ceremony of the Tellewyan Hospital renovated by the Swiss Government funds.

**U.S. Navy Ship Arrives in Monrovia**

(The Inquirer)

- The first of four American naval ships, the Fort McHenry arrives in the country Monday to conduct and participate in a medical outreach and educational projects.
- The deployment of the African Partnership Stations will make Liberia a recipient of the largest amount of U.S. equipment and training.
- The Fort McHenry is part of the African Partnership Station that seeks to address the common threats of illegal fishing, smuggling, and human trafficking in ten West African Countries including Liberia.

### **President Bush Nominates New U.S. Ambassador to Liberia**

(Daily Observer, The Analyst)

- President George Bush has nominated Linda Thomas-Greenfield as the new U.S. Ambassador to Liberia. Ambassador Greenfield is a career Foreign Service officer and is currently awaiting confirmation by the U.S. Senate. She will replace Ambassador Donald E. Booth who has been the U.S. Ambassador to Liberia since July 2005.

### **Government Gets US\$12.5M Yearly for Malaria Control**

(Heritage, The News, The Monitor)

- Health and Social Welfare Minister, Dr. Walter Gwenigale has disclosed that the United States Government under the George Bush Malaria support initiative in Liberia would provide US\$12.5 million for a three-year period to support proven interventions for malaria control in the country.
- The amount is part of the US\$27 million, which the U.S. Government has committed to Liberia's health sector for fiscal year 2008.
- Speaking at the launch of the George Walker Bush malaria initiative in Tubmanburg, Bomi County, Dr. Gwenigale said the support to the fight against malaria in the country is essential to the growth and development of Liberia. Also speaking at the launch, the Acting Director of USAID, Lucretia Taylor said the assistance was intended to support the Liberian government as it transitions from emergency to recovery and development.

### **Firestone to Reopen Division 35 School**

(The Monitor, The Informer)

- The Division 35 School in Firestone is expected to reopen shortly. Facilities of the school, including housing units for the teachers were razed to the ground during the civil war. According to the Construction Manager of Firestone Liberia, Ligori Sekajipo, who was part of the assessment visit to the construction site, the eight classrooms and the teachers' lounge will be ready for the normal academic activities during the next school year.
- Also speaking during the visit, Mrs. Dwede Hoto, Superintendent of the Firestone School System, said she was satisfied with the level of efforts Management is putting in the construction of new educational facilities for the children of its employees.

### **Government Brings Weapons for SSS....UNMIL says Arms Legally Obtained**

(Heritage)

- The Chief of Public Information of the UN Mission in Liberia (UNMIL), George Somerwill disclosed on Friday that the Government has brought into the country a twenty-foot container load of weapons for use by the special Security Service (SSS). The SSS provides protection for the President.
- Mr. Somerwill said the container load of weapons arrived in the country a few days ago under the supervision of UNMIL. Addressing journalists at UNMIL regular press briefing, the UNMIL Chief of Public Information said the acquisition of the weapons by Government followed an appeal it made to the UN Security Sanction Committee last year requesting the weapons to adequately provide protection for the President.
- He said after scrupulously reviewing the appeal, the request was granted the Government. "The weapons were perfectly and legally obtained by the Liberian Government and there is no reason for the public to be apprehensive", Mr. Somerwill said.

## **Radio Summary**

**Local Media – Star Radio** (News culled today from website at 8:35 am)

### **Ghanaian Security Officers Raid Liberian Refugee Camp – Whisk off Several Women and Children to Unknown Location**

- Ghanaian security officers on Monday loaded Liberian refugee women and children residing on the Buduburum camp, outside Accra, on nine buses to an unknown location.



- The Liberian refugees in Ghana have been on a 'peaceful' demonstration for over three weeks now protesting against local integration into the Ghanaian society while at same time demanding US\$1,000 and repatriation to a third country. But the Ghanaian Government in a statement last week said the demonstration was a breach of the Public Order Act of 1994 and urged them to comport themselves and channel their grievances through the appropriate and relevant authorities for redress. Appearing on a local radio talk show, Deputy Information Minister Gabriel Williams said the government was working out modalities to address the issue.
- It was reported last week that several Liberian refugees in the Ivory Coast sustained injuries when some Ivorian security officers raided a United Nations compound to disperse protesting refugees. The Liberian refugees had gathered close to the UN compound in Giglo to stage a demonstration, demanding resettlement to a third country due to worsening security conditions and social discrimination in the Ivorian society.

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

### **Radio Veritas** *(News monitored at 9:45 am)*

#### **Cabinet Takes Retreat to Lofa County**

*(Also reported on Star Radio, Truth F.M., and E.L.B.C.)*

#### **U.S. Navy Ship Arrives in Liberia Today**

*(Also reported on Star Radio, Truth F.M., and E.L.B.C.)*

#### **Negotiations to Conduct Study on Gender-Based Violence Underway**

- Negotiations leading to the conduct of scientific research on gender-based violence and the rule of law in the country have started in Monrovia between the Emery University and a number of Liberia institutions and government officials.
- A nine-member delegation from the University has just concluded a two week assessment in Liberia and is seeking a broad based partnership with Liberian institutions, Government officials and other local NGO's engaged in gender based violence on how to conduct research in Liberia.
- In an interview, a member of the working group, Kaycee Deni said the delegation was in the country upon the invitation of Carter Centre Monrovia Office to listen and identify problems associated with gender based violence and the rule of Law.

*(Also reported on Star Radio, Truth F.M., and E.L.B.C.)*

#### **Government, Mercy Corps to Distribute Cocoa Seedlings to Farmers in Bassa**

- The Liberian Government through the Liberia Produce Marketing Corporation (LPMC) is to shortly distribute free cocoa seedlings to farmers in Grand Bassa County.
- The seedlings were produced by Mercy Corps as part of the memorandum of understanding reached with the LPMC to rehabilitate the corporation cocoa plantation in District#2 in Grand Bassa County.
- The US\$50,000 agreement also calls for the training of cocoa farmers in rural Liberia.

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