

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



Wednesday's press conference at the Sierra Leone News Agency. See today's '*Special Court Supplement*' for a verbatim transcript of the conference.

**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:**

Friday, 19 January 2007

Press clips are produced Monday through Friday.  
Any omission, comment or suggestion, please contact  
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**Special Court for Sierra Leone**  
Press and Public Affairs Office

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**Freetown, Sierra Leone, 18 January 2007**

### **Justice Julia Sebutinde Elected Presiding Judge of Trial Chamber II**

Justice Julia Sebutinde of Uganda has been elected Presiding Judge of Trial Chamber II. She succeeds Justice Richard Lussick, who ended his one-year term as Presiding Judge on 17 January 2007.



Pursuant to Rule 27 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence, the Presiding Judge of each Trial Chamber is elected for a renewable term of one year. It has, however, been the general practice of both Trial Chambers to rotate the position of the Presiding Judge at the end of each one-year term.

Justice Julia Sebutinde, British-trained Ugandan lawyer, was called to the Uganda Bar in 1979. From 1978-1991 she worked within Uganda's Ministry of Justice, where she rose to the level of Principal State Attorney / Principal Legislative Counsel. From 1991-1996 she worked for the Commonwealth Secretariat, London as a Legislative Consultant and was seconded to the newly-independent Republic of Namibia, where she was attached to the Ministry of Justice as a

Legislative expert.

In 1996 she was appointed Judge of the High Court of Uganda. Between 1999 and 2003 Judge Sebutinde chaired three high-level Commissions which investigated allegations of corruption in the Uganda Police Force, the Ministry of Defence and the Uganda Revenue Authority, respectively.

Justice Sebutinde joined the Special Court in January 2005. She was appointed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Trial Chamber II, consisting of Justice Sebutinde, Justice Richard Lussick and Justice Theresa Doherty, is currently considering verdicts in the case of the three alleged former leaders of the Armed Forces Revolutionary Council (AFRC).

Trial Chamber II has also been assigned the case of The Prosecutor vs. Charles Ghankay Taylor. That trial will take place in The Hague.

#END

Awareness Times  
Friday, 19 January 2007

## Justice Sebutinde Elected Presiding Judge of Special Court Chamber II



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*Justice Julia Sebutinde: A Lady of Integrity*



## Justice Sebutinde is Presiding Judge

*From Front Page*

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Awoko

Friday, 19 January 2007

## Special Court chief debunks Norman's statement

The Chief of Public Affairs of the Special Court, Peter Andersen, yesterday debunked to Awoko statements made by the daughter of Hinga Norman over the BBC that her father was being kept in a prison in Dakar, Senegal.

Mr Andersen disclosed that he had received a report from the hospital that the accused persons had been getting better

treatment.

He stated that, "the health of the accused are paramount to us and therefore they were admitted at a very prestigious military hospital which sometimes host civilians, and they are kept in the VIP wards which are air conditioned."

The Chief Prosecutor explained that the two accused, Hinga Norman and Issa Sesay, were in conducive atmosphere and

were well taken care of.

The two Special Court accused were on Wednesday flown out of the country by a UN helicopter from the Court's detention centre in Freetown to the Freetown International airport where they boarded a special UN chartered flight for Senegal.

The two indictees were accompanied by Special Court officials, including Dr Donald Harding who has been treating them.

Awoko

Friday, 19 January 2007

*for 3 years operations...*

## **Special Court spends \$125 million**

*By Betty Milton*

As the life span of the Special Court is coming to an end, there is the need for more financing to keep the court going for the next three years as in the past three years it spent about \$125 million.

According to the registrar of the court Lovemore Munlo, the money was not only spent on running the court but one of the tasks when they went to occupy the New England area was to revamp the whole place "and put it in the condition

that you see it today, we have a world class court room."

In terms of funding, they hoped that money would be available to run the court for the last three years and that the Prosecutor, the President and the Deputy Registrar were to leave Freetown for the United States to talk to their supporters to see how they would help them raise funds.

The management committee that runs the court, Mr Munlo said, "is also very much prepared to hear their views on how to put their

budget together so that the court goes on efficiently and without disruption."

He noted that there was a plan in place and that they were working towards that, and hopeful that they would get the money.

The new Prosecutor, Stephen Rapp, disclosed that what they should be thinking about now was to come forward with the three years' proposal that talked about this year "which will be an expensive year because Taylor's trial."

Awoko

Friday, 19 January 2007

## One year after Golley's arrest

# "No sign of justice" says defence

The London based legal team for the former spokesman for the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) Omrie Golley has spoken about a year of frustration, citing the slowness of the judicial system in the country.

According to a press release issued by James Oury of Oury Clark Solicitors based in Britain, "over this period there have

been over 30 adjournments to the criminal trial, which his defence team says have certainly not been at its request."

It further states that, "in fact, most of these adjournments have been down to the prosecution and, indeed, the judge."

Further hampering Golley's legal defence, they say, is the fact that,

"official request to the prosecution over the last year by the defence team for disclosure of evidence has remained unacknowledged," citing the intense political nature of the case coupled with his poor health.

According to the release, only last month the head of the prisons sections of the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) informed (them)

Oury Clark solicitors of its active intervention in the case.

The FCO's letter, according to the release, states that, "the Deputy High Commissioner (in Freetown) has made representations on the progress of Mr Golley's various motions to the Supreme Court and we are awaiting a written response."

The indications are that the FCO will be taking a more active interest in the matter this year, the release states.

It further asks questions about Golley's human rights, which his lawyers say have been violated by the government for refusing to allow their client to receive proper medical treatment, as the defence team is still awaiting a response to its petitions from the Banjul based African Commission on Human and People's Rights.

"We are hoping in the meantime that the Commission will communicate with the government of Sierra Leone asking it to grant Mr Golley his basic human rights so that he could receive urgent medical treatment for his failing health," laments James Oury of Oury Clark Solicitors.

The defence team also laments further that, "the habeas corpus application, which is challenging the legitimacy of Mr Golley's original arrest, took a new twist on January 2007 when a hearing took place with oral notice being given to the defence team just two days before the matter came up in court."

James Oury went on, "I understand that a panel of judges has indicated they can hear the matter," but argued that the judges fell under the remit of the defence team's argument against the trial judge: that they are past the retirement

age and employed by the government, thus lacking the perception of independence and impartiality.

"It is unclear at this time as to what they are or are not ruling on but it appear to be another example of a poor delivery of fairness in the context of Mr Golley's constitutional rights," Oury explained.

Regarding the slow judicial process, he opined, "a year has passed and the constitutional motions, habeas corpus, application and indeed criminal trial are no further forward."

Oury goes on saying, "this must be reflective of the fundamental breakdown in the rule of law and the administration of justice in Sierra Leone-Mr Golley should either be afforded fairness or the allegations withdrawn. Given the fact that the country will be pre-occupied with elections this year, it is imperative that this case does not go off the radar screen," he added.



The Spark  
Friday, 19 January 2007

# Hinga Norman & Issa Sesay Are Dying!

*By Salifu Conteh*

The Registrar of the Special Court for Sierra Leone Mr. Lovemore Munlo has revealed to this press that two detainees of the Court former commander of the Civil Defence Force militia (CDF) Chief Sam Hinga Norman and former leader of the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) Issa Hassan Sesay have been flown out of the country to Senegal for medical treatment. Both detainees were airlifted early on Wednesday morning at 8:45 am by the United Nations helicopter from their respective cells in the Special Court, to the Lungi International airport where they were taken to Senegal for proper treatment.

They were accompanied by Dr Donald Harding and a Special Court staff who also assured the press that both Sam

Norman and Issa Sesay will be brought back to Sierra Leone at the Special Court to continue trials. The relatives were not among those that accompanied the detainees.

Mr. Munlo stressed that such move was made possible by an agreement concluded some time in September last year among the Sierra Leone Government, Senegal and the Special Court to provide medical services for detainees which can not be provided locally.

Though he avoided the question relating to the seriousness of the ailment of both detainees, he confirmed that their condition is not a life threatening one as both were able to walk to the airport unassisted and in a very high mood.

Mr. Munlo explained to the press that according to the rules governing the treatment of detainees in international courts, it is forbidden that public disclosure of medical information on detainees be made in order not to jeopardize or infringe on their privacy and which can also be seen as a breach of human rights especially when questions arose with regards Issa Sesay who was once said to have sustained a bullet in one of his legs which might be the cause of his illness.

Medical check up for all detainees is said to be a routine. Therefore, this should not cause any alarm as both detainees would be brought back to the Special Court as soon as the treatment has been concluded in Senegal.

The Exclusive  
Friday, 19 January 2007

# Hinga Norman Is Dying

*By David .A.  
Jabati Jnr.*

**T**he Special Court for Sierra Leone, a couple of months ago reacted to a publication in The Exclusive captioned: "Hinga Norman is seriously ill."

Reacting to the story, the Special Court Spokesman, Peter Anderson, described the publication as, false.

Also, the President of the Sierra Leone Association of Journalists (SLAJ), Alhaji I.B Kargbo, called up the Managing Editor of The Exclusive, to caution him on such publications.

Today, it is reported that the former head of the Civil Defense Force (CDF), Chief Sam Hinga Norman and another inmate of the Special Court, Issa Sesay, who was leader of the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) have been flown to Senegal for medical

treatment.

According to Special Court sources, the two are to undergo surgery.

The Special Court has also disclosed that the agreement between the government of Sierra Leone and Senegal had begun since September last year.

Though the special Court did not go against the rules that govern the treatment of detainees, by stating exactly the nature of ailments suffered by the two, family sources say, Norman is gravely ill.

Reacting to the news, Norman is also reported to have blasted the Special Court for dumping him into the worst

prison in Senegal instead of taken him to a hospital, as expected.

In reaction to Norman's outburst, Special Court's Anderson has denied saying: "...Norman and Issa Sesay are in the VIP (Very Important Prison) wing of a military hospital in Dakar.

The name and location of the prison, Anderson did not state for according him, "obvious security reasons."

"Will Norman survive the operation?" is the question now on the lips of family members and sympathizers, The Exclusive has interviewed since the news broke out.

For di People  
Friday, 19 January 2007

# NORMAN

# COMPLAINS

## “I Was Kept Hungry In A Very Bad Cell!”

**FORMER MINISTER of Internal Affairs, also kamajor chieftain standing trial at the Special Court for crimes against humanity, has complained about the prison condition in Senegal and that he was kept hungry for several hours, according to his daughter, Juliet Hinga Norman.**

She said she fears for her father's life, especially being treated in Senegal and that he prefers instead, London. She said her father is to do a hip surgery and doubts whether those facilities exist in

Senegal.

“The place is kept in looks like a prison and the conditions are not near to those of the Special Court in Freetown.

“He was flown to Senegal without the knowledge of the family,” she

said.

However, the chief of public affairs at the Special Court, Peter Anderson vehemently denied this accusation stating that in November the family knew that Norman would have to be flown for medical treat-

ment but since it was a big security operation that involved two key figures they did not inform them of the date of the transfer.

He also said Norman's phone lines were cut off when he started giving interviews to the press, a matter against the arrangement as the indictee himself knows that he was not empowered to give interviews.

But that his family can now call him or he will call them.

Anderson refused to give any information about the type of sickness the two indictees are suffering from, saying that both people when in Freetown, knew together with their families what was wrong but had not brought it to the public domain neither had their lawyers. As a result it will not be right for the

Special Court to make it public, adding, the indictees are being treated nicely and not kept in prison but guarded by their own securities from Freetown and that they are expected here soon.

The two indictees were flown together with their doctor, Donald Harding and some security personnel and that their conditions are not life threatening.

Standard Times  
Friday, 19 January 2007

## One Country, One People ?

Can the above headline be described as a motto of the Sierra Leone People's Party or as a political statement?

Sometimes due to the activities of the Sierra Leone People's Party, it becomes incredible and rough to conceptualize the slogan, or motto. It leaves the minds gabbling and bubbling in search of the actual meaning of the slogan.

Perhaps one might look at it from a different political perspective if a conclusion is to be drawn

But again what does it mean? 'One Country One People.' A slogan that has been used and over-used, which probably has lost its taste, like salt losing its saltiness.

'One people one country' what does it mean?

To the ordinary man on the street, it could be a political statement to appease voters in order to cushion the burden of the one country one people propaganda by the ruling party. But that is not the answer the ordinary man on the street is expecting to receive. His expectation probably is "one country for all" irrespective of race, region status or political connection. It is a country for all and sundry.

The one country one people theory has almost become monotonous, dull and uninteresting to the ears of all especially when the one country is only catering for one people, and these are the people of the ruling class, not the people who sacrificed their energies, lives and properties for the formation of the ruling class who are today benefiting from the one country, one people theory.

joined hands for the political improvement of their people.

This was the similar intention the late Maxwell Khobe had in mind when in 1998 he marched from the far east of Freetown with his troops to the centre to eject the illegal occupants of the state's administration. The founding members like Maxwell Khobe had a similar focus, which was for the general good of the people of this country and not for one country with its people whose freedom and political beliefs had been mortgaged by a group of gun-totting men accompanied and supported by criminally and drug addicted youths who were misdirected by ill-motivated individuals.

The irony of the one country, one people theory has clearly manifested itself to the masses that the slogan was just an empty talk and full of promises that would never be fulfilled. It is very evident that indeed it is "one country" but for a few people who have amassed wealth at the expense of their counterparts.

It would be recalled that the fight to liberate the one country not for one people but its people caused the late Maxwell Khobe to sustain serious bullet injuries for which he

None of the foundation member had imagined that such efforts would be bastardized or proved to be selfish and self-centred

1957 or maybe prior to that date saw the formation of a political party by concerned and key individuals in the protectorate whose aspiration and desire was to cater for the needs of the protectorate. This political party had the initial notion of its founders that it would be grass-root oriented. It is like an organization for effective work to take place. The manager should be down to earth, meaning that they should be able to communicate to those at the bottom and the latter themselves should be able to channel their problems to those at the top with relative ease.

None of the foundation member had imagined that such efforts would be bastardized or proved to be selfish and self-centred. The late medical doctor Sir Milton Margai together with some like minds in Freetown and Kambia

badly needed an immediate surgical operation to free him and protect his life so that he could return home safely to rejoin his family in Nigeria. He died as a result of serious complication that affected his entire anatomy and physiology, and sadly the ruling government at the time Maxwell Khobe marched to Freetown to restore constitutional legality treated the suffering of Khobe with

A copy of the letter had since been sent to the vice president Solomon Berewa, minority and majority leaders of parliament, to all CDF members as well as the diplomatic corps.

Recently, close sources to the disbanded group intimated this press that the Kamajors are unhappy not only for the arrest and detention of senior members of the force including Chief Sam Hinga Norman, but also they feel that they have been cheated by the government as promises made to them had never been fulfilled.

It is not known what steps would be implemented by the group in order to get their demands fulfilled by the government, especially when the government and other key players have turned blind eyes to their cause.

Prior to the departure of Chief Norman for medical treatment to Senegal, family sources say he had cautioned them to remain calm until his matter at the Special Court comes to a close.

It would be recalled that the Sierra Leone parliament legitimized the CDF groups when the war was fast hitting the nation and Sankoh's desperation to reach the city of Freetown.

The civil defence groups played very significant military role to combat the threat, advancement and menace of the RUF.

Sadly, the abandonment of the group had left them disorganized till date.



joined hands for the political improvement of their people.

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It would be recalled that the fight to liberate the one country not for one people but its people caused the late Maxwell Khobe to sustain serious bullet injuries for which he

levity that led to the death of the Nigeria General. His burial ceremony in Nigeria was witnessed by a handful of SLPP supporters but conspicuously the President absented himself.

Though his defence for not attending the burial ceremony of Maxwell Khobe could be that he was represented by the then vice President, Dr. Joe Demby, this may sound ridiculous in the sense that Dr. Demby appreciated the role of Maxwell Khobe and thought that it was necessary to pay his last respect to a foreigner who sacrificed his life to liberate his country and restore the a constitutionally elected government.

Therefore no sane mind would cherish the defence of President Kabbah for not respecting the dead Maxwell Khobe. But as I indicated earlier in this piece that it is "One country one people" and the one people are the few who are state beneficiaries of the present government and political party (SLPP).

Perhaps, as usual President Kabbah may argue further that Maxwell Khobe died as a soldier who was on a mission and after accomplishing of such mission had to return.

If that is the defence did he appreciate the mission accomplished by the late former General who used all professional knowledge to bring the exiled president back to his seat? Khobe is dead and gone but what about people like the late Rev. Paul Dumber-whose death in Kono was a semblance of a pauper? What did the "One country one people political party do on behalf of the late man?

Absolutely nothing, because the late Paul Dumber was not in support of Kabbah's candidacy in 1996, so Kabbah had always treated him as his enemy.

But despite that, democracy doesn't mean unanimous voice, making the concept generally acceptable to the world regardless of the fact that some leaders are bastardizing and misusing it for political self centeredness.

Another ugly scenario that is begging the attention of the one country one people political party



*Hinga Norman*

is the plight of another staunch member other SLPP who under rain and sun refused to make a crossover to the APC during the days of the late Siaka P. Stevens. Even when Dr. Sama Banya and others decided to switch political gear on the grounds that it was a one-party system of government, Mana Kpaka stood firm, saying that he would never abandon his SLPP to join the political bandwagon of the APC despite things were not rosy for him. Unlike him, other political vultures were quick

to bend down and eat with the APC, and shamefully these are the same people criticizing the APC today for all the political mess caused by the party in the past, forgetting that they were key and principal players in the system that transformed the city of Freetown into a dark cave, as is evident today despite the ad hoc Moroccan arrangement for few street lights to be installed that the SLPP is finding it difficult to maintain and sustain because of the cost that the party never imagined or budgeted for.

The question is where is Mana Kpaka the man who believed in his traditional party that has betrayed and dumped him, and only waiting for the invitation of the good God to join his once bosom friend and brother, Paul Dumber.

These are some of the rewards SLPP makes to people who sacrifice all they had acquired in terms of knowledge and earthly possession for the furtherance of the party.

*CONTINUED PAGE 13*

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FROM PAGE 10

Take the case of Chief Sam Hinga Norman who is now battling between freedom and a protracted jail term if found guilty of the allegation levied against him, being the coordinator of the Kamajors, who must therefore carry the blame for atrocities committed by this group.

President Kabbah, perhaps may be someone with a myopic memory, if not he could have shown gratitude to Norman and his family rather than seeing him perish in a detention centre for the patriotic effort he undertook to liberate the country and restore the SLPP back to power.

But as the leader of the SLPP is, so are most of its members. They could be described as a bunch of ingrates who only cater for their personal welfare and not for others. Perhaps that is the meaning of the motto of the party, to show ingratitude to those who have contributed to their survival and existence.

For three years now, Hinga Norman has found himself between the walls of a detention centre, where many SLPP stalwarts or supporters have refused to pay him a visit just to say thank you for the patriotic work done for this nation.

How many of them have reminded President Kabbah about the suffering of Hinga Norman, how he spent sleepless nights in the bush, how he survived in midst of terrible and harmful animals? Did someone ever remind President Kabbah about the sacrifices made by Chief Norman?

Sadly he is now languishing with no one to tell the president that his actions are not compatible with the ideals and values of the party, if there has been any since its formation to date.

President Kabbah prob-

ably is aware that there is no ideal or value that the SLPP believes or stands for. It is perhaps for that reason he has grown taller than the party, doing whatever and turning things the way he wants them to be.

Take the case of the leadership convention of the party held in Makeni, how it was manipulated. Today the outcome of the manipulation has created so many cracks within the party that are now extremely difficult to conceal. It is President Kabbah who is the agent of all the embarrassment the party and its leadership is going through.

However that is what the

of the professional services he has been rendering to the people in that part of the country.

The squealer president presented a picture that appeared good for the medical doctor but skillfully bended it with flimsy reasons as to why he dumped him for the 2002 election to appoint Solomon Berewa.

They applauds that greeted his defence were made only to satisfy him during that moment, certainly some party stalwarts were not happy with the way he dumped a once loyal servant of him and the state.

But this is very typical of

After Kabbah had  
brainwashed his audience,  
Solomon Berewa became  
hallucinated, holding a  
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and telling the people  
how he felt about the  
president's speech

"One country one people" can offer to its membership and the country as well.

Last Wednesday night some viewers of the national TV station enjoyed the drama as it unfolded scene by scene. President Kabbah, as this writer observed, was giving his political history spanning from 1996 to date, especially the elections.

Accordingly to him it was a few days to the election that he appointed Dr. Demby as his running mate. He did that after making keen observation during his trips to the provinces. As a medical doctor, he thought that Dr. Demby was fit to be his number two man as a result

the SLPP. It is a party that can use you, misuse and dump you, and then flimsy reasons, especially when you have President Kabbah as the leader and President nothing is strange about the character and behaviour of the party.

After Kabbah had brainwashed his audience, Solomon Berewa became hallucinated, holding a microphone tightly griped and telling the people how he felt about the president's speech.

But what baffled some of those who viewed the clips was the president's double standard telling Solomon Berewa, "Don't allow any one to confuse you in choosing your running mate".

He created a smokescreen picture to his admirers as if somebody is disturbing Solomon Berewa when he is the very one imposing Momodu Koroma on him, giving the old man no breathing space to think properly as to who should compliment his political journey to the 2007 election.

**But what baffled some of those who viewed the clips was the president's double standard telling Solomon Berewa, "Don't allow any one to confuse you in choosing your running mate"**

Standard Times  
Friday, 19 January 2007

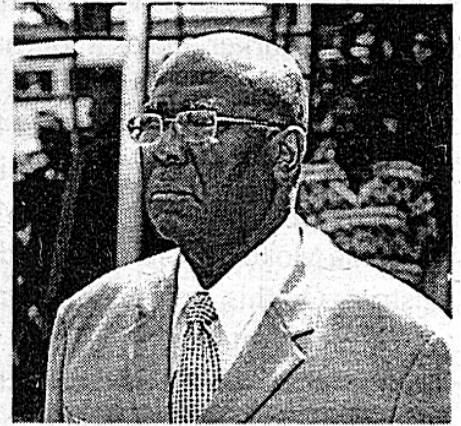
*Prior to 2007 elections...*

# Kamajors demands compensation

Members of the disbanded civil defence forces, commonly known as "Kamajors," who fought alongside with the loyal military officers for the liberation of areas occupied by the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) rebels and the restoration of the Kabbah-

led SLPP government in 1998, are now demanding compensation from the government for their efforts, loss of life of their colleagues, and those who received serious injuries and amputation

In a letter signed by Chief Samuel Hinga Norman as the group's national coordinator, payment to the



*Kabbah... remember*

following category of officers was demanded. "Payment is due to the following," the letter states. Among them are the administrators, initiators, directors, commanders, fighters and other service personnel.

# KAMAJOHS DEMANDS COMPENSATION

His Excellency

President Alhaji Dr. Ahmad Tejan Kabba  
President of the Republic of Sierra Leone

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to respectfully address an open letter to your Excellency for all the affections you, your Government and Party extended to me and the other CDF/SL members in jail throughout the various holidays since your concocted court indicted us for restoring you and your Government to power.

I also wish to thank you for what you did for all the CDF/SL members and those across the nation and the world on today's date (January 18, 2004) commemorating the end of the Disarmament and end of war in Sierra Leone.

Your Excellency's machination in transforming RECONCILLATION into PROSECUTION in Sierra Leone of men who laid down their lives for your Excellency, Government and the Nation will surely be remembered. Your Excellency's betrayal of the CDF/SL and the MENDE/KAMAJOHS and the bitter ungratefulness will surely be rewarded even, abundantly by the good Lord!

Since your Excellency and Government have deemed it MORALLY RIGHT to go back on your SIGNED undertakings in the LOME AGREEMENT in respect of the CDF/SL and particularly the Kamajors, the CDF/SL has no alternative but to forward the following request for urgent action.

Resulting from series of careful discussions among representatives of ADMINISTRATORS, INITIATORS, DIRECTORS, COMMANDERS, FIGHTERS AND OTHER SERVICES of the entire membership of the CDF/SL across the nation, it was decided that your Excellency President Alhaji Dr. Ahmad Tejan Kabba,

Commander-in-Chief, Minister of Defence and National Commander of the Civil Defence Forces of Sierra Leone (CDF/SL) be informed that the remaining members of various categories listed below are requesting on urgent payment of full compensation for services rendered to the President and Government of Sierra Leone from 1996 to the year 2002 (January 1996 to January 18, 2002) as Civil Defence Forces (CDF) was legitimized by parliament. In the services of Government, many of the fighters died, injured and disabled and most are still missing. Today, their rewards are false charges of crimes against humanity, murder cannibalism, rape, looting etc; indictments against the MENDE/KAMAJOHS not that we did, but that we bear greatest responsibility for those who did the acts. God alone knows the next tribes in line to be charged for services rendered or for the actions of those who rendered CDF services to your Excellency, your Government and the nation.

Payment is due to the following: -

- a) ADMINISTRATORS
- b) INITIATORS
- c) DIRECTORS
- d) COMMANDERS
- e) FIGHTERS
- f) OTHER SERVICES

Now that UN Funded DDR programme is said to have ended December 31, 2003 without addressing the issues of compensating the remaining huge number of fighters especially now that the men are being prosecuted and harassed, no talk of gratis service will be entertained.

Your Excellency is therefore informed that registration has been ordered across the nation for the purposes of assessing the number of persons and amounts payable to every individual and the total amount involved.

The CDF/SL is requesting the entire DDR completed documents indicating the total CDF personnel disarmed and total amount paid to the CDF/SL (names, addresses and tools and equipment given out and their cost for verification. Also names of CDF students, paid for throughout the various institutions across the nation. The demand for payment is non-negotiable.

Highest regards - believe me.

Your Excellency's servant,

Chief Samuel Hinga Norman JP.  
National Co-ordinator-CDF/SL

Cc:

- Vice President of The Republic of Sierra Leone
- Majority Leader (SLPP) in Parliament
- Minority Leader (APC) in Parliament
- All CDF ADMINISTRATORS, COMMANDERS, DIRECTORS, ... INITIATORS, FIGHTERS and OTHER SERVICES.
- UNAMSIL
- Diplomatic & Consular Corps.
- CDS.
- Inspector General of Police
- All Unions
- Civil Societies.
- TRC
- Special Court
- RUFPP
- Inter Religious Council
- Press
- File.



New Vision  
Friday, 19 January 2007

## UN Troops To Storm Freetown

Mr. Moigbeh said the Quick Reaction Force will be here from the 21<sup>st</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> January. He added that the infantry will enter Sierra Leone from the east towards, the south and onwards to Freetown. They will hold discussions with the Military and the police on the general security situation in the country. He called on Sierra Leoneans not to panic, adding that the security exercise will not include firing a shot, but that it is going to be a show of force.

Mr. Moigbeh said it is a normal military exercise

conducted by UNMIL with the primary security forces in Sierra Leone. The Police and Military will be participating in the air exercise, noting that the troops will be coming in three sets starting on the 23 January and that military hardwares and other personnel will be airlifted to Hastings and enter Freetown by road.

He said M18 and 5 air assault choppers, Military Marine vessels, MV Caterina will be coming to Freetown to take part in the security exercise.

The Regional Police Commander Western Area Assistant Inspector General Tamba Gbekie observed that the essence of the exercise is for the Quick Reactions force to know how many minutes or hours they will take to come to Sierra Leone or respond to any negative action and to also to familiarize with the terrain. He called on people not to panic as it is a normal military exercise done by UNMIL. The troops will then return to Liberia on the 28<sup>th</sup> January.

## The Patriotic Vanguard

Thursday 18 January 2007

### "Hinga Norman, Sesay, are not in Prison"-----Special Court

By Gibril Koroma

A usually very reliable source at the Special Court in Freetown has denied rumours that Special Court indictees Samuel Hinga Norman (photo) and Issa Sesay are in a notorious prison in Senegal.

The source, who wants to remain anonymous, said special court detainees are normally not allowed to talk to the press and that Norman's phone number in Senegal was given to the press by a special court employee contrary to the court's rules and regulations. The source maintained that the two men are in a hospital, not in prison.



This is confirmed by professor Abdul Karim Bangura, a Norman supporter based in the US who is asking for donations on leonenet for people to be sent to Senegal to monitor Norman's condition. He said Norman is in a hospital.

Stay tuned for more on this issue.

## Cocorioko Website

Thursday, 18 January 2007

### **SAMFORAY FLAYS SPECIAL COURT FOR TREATMENT OF CHIEF HINGA NORMAN**

The Spokesman of the Hinga Norman Defence Fund, Rev. Alfred SamForay , has said that supporters of former Interior Minister Chief Hinga Norman have reason to believe that the real reason for taking Mr. Norman to Senegal was that the Special Court of Sierra Leone may have already determined his guilt and "As such it is quite convenient to take him there and to incarcerate him there for the duration of his sentence. "

Rev. Samforay made the assertion today during an exclusive interview with COCORIOKO . Frustrated by what he described as the unfair treatment of Chief Norman , Rev. Samforay quickly rejoined : "This, of course, is unacceptable to us, but we will wait and see how things develop over the next few days. However, Special Court Chief of Press and Public Affairs, Mr. Peter Andersen also told COCORIOKO earlier today that Mr. Norman was in knowledge of his trip to Senegal for medical treatment. Said Mr. Andersen : "We even talked about it while sitting in the UNIOSIL departure lounge at Lungi Airport, joking a bit about whether anybody could speak French. He knew it for sure more than a month ago because it was discussed with him. "

COCORIOKO interviewed the Reverend when it became obvious that telephone conversation with Chief Hinga Norman was no longer possible as callers, including the Editor of this newspaper, Rev. Wilfred Leeroy Kabs-Kanu, were being told to go through the chief's lawyers or the Special Court Press and Public Affairs Department. Mr. Samforay complained that after a very few people had the luck to contact Chief Norman directly in Senegal after his arrival there yesteryday, the opportunity was soon withdrawn and now neither he nor family or supporters are able to contact the Chief.

Mr. Foray complained further that it was agreed before that if Norman would be taken abroad for treatment, his lawyers would be duly informed. He said however that none of Norman's defence attorneys had any knowledge that he had been taken away to Senegal. Samforay indicated that even the lead Hinga Norman defence lawyer, Bubuakai Jabbie only knew about the chief being moved to Senegal, after he (Samforay) told me , after he too heard it from startled family who were also not given any prior information. The family, he went on, visited Norman on Saturday and Sunday, but were never told. Foray argued that if the Chief knew that he was going to Senegal, he could have told his family.

About an allegation at Leonenet by Togondoe Sagbah that the chief was removed to Senegal because he was about to declare for the People's Movement For Democratic Change ( PMDC) , Mr. Samforay said he had no knowledge of such a plan by Chief Hinga Norman.

Earlier today, in response to questions from COCORIOKO, Mr. Andersen had intimated : "Norman has NEVER sustained any injury either during his arrest or while in custody of the Court. " But Samforay this evening gave a different view. He said Chief Norman was indeed injured during his arrest. The Rev. indicated that the chief's doctor in detention had said that Norman had sustained injuries and was taken to hospital because of this situation. Many people who had gone to see the chief had also indicated that he was injured and walked like one leg was taller than the other.

Rev. Samforay said Norman explained how he came about the injury. According to the chief, after his arrest, the truck he sat in for Bonthe Island did not have seats and he had to crouch and stoop. During the process, Samforay continued, the chief said he slipped and hurt his knee. He argued that if the chief did not have injuries, "Why was he flown to Senegal.?" "

SamForay then gave the following statement : "If people ever had any doubts that this whole special court concept was a fraud on the people of Sierra Leone , the deceptive manner in which Chief Norman was removed from our country to a maximum security prison in Senegal under the guise of medical treatment should leave no doubts in the minds of any right thinking person. The so-called special court for Sierra Leone was a racket from the word go and a gross misplacement of our national priorities. Liberia where the Sierra Leone war originated has wisely opted not to have a special court. South Africa and Cambodia too have chosen not to have one. The lynching of Sadaam Husein in Iraq guilty as might have been, is proof-positive that such half-bred tribunals are simply a means for the international community to feel good about itself and for local politicians to avenge their political enemies."

"In the case of Sierra Leone , President Kabbah's own cabinet made it very clear that they did not want the court to try the government sponsored militia, the CDF-SL. The cabinet instructed Kabbah in a letter to the UN that only the rebels were to be tried, yet Kabbah went over the wishes of Sierra Leoneans and his own cabinet and bargained with the UN to include the CDF thus laying the grounds to arrest and incarcerate Chief Hinga Norman, until then a trusted friend and senior minister to Kabbah."

"Those of us who believe in a life after and an powerful God must also believe that if there is any justice after death then there must be a special place reserved for people who knowingly and deliberately betray trust and friendship for political goals. So we can only pray and hope that Mr. Norman comes out of all this with his life. Beyond that, only God Himself shall execute justice on those for whom Chief Norman sacrificed so much and who in turn abandoned him to a dubious and morally and financially bankrupt international tribunal. "

"We have reason to believe that the real reason for taking Mr. Norman to Senegal is that they may have already determined his guilt and as such it is quite convenient to take him there and to incarcerate him there for the duration of his sentence. This, of course, is unacceptable to us, but we will wait and see how things develop over the next few days."



Reuters

Wednesday, 17 January 2007

### III Sierra Leone war crimes defendants flown abroad

By Christo Johnson

FREETOWN, Jan 17 (Reuters) - The top loyalist and rebel defendants being tried for war crimes in Sierra Leone were both flown abroad for medical treatment on Wednesday just weeks before the verdicts are due, the prosecutor said.

Stephen Rapp, who took over on Jan. 1 as chief prosecutor for the United Nations-backed tribunal trying the men, told reporters that former Defence Minister Sam Hinga Norman and ex-rebel commander Issa Sesay had been flown to Dakar, Senegal.

He said court authorities would not disclose the nature of the men's illnesses. Family members of both men said they had been complaining of pains, and a relative said Issa Sesay still had a bullet lodged in his body from the war.

The Special Court for Sierra Leone was set up with U.N. backing and money from foreign donors to try the main instigators of atrocities in the West African country's 1991-2002 civil war, during which rebels chopped off civilians' limbs. All sides are accused of widespread abuses.

Rapp, a U.S. attorney who supervised prosecutions of Rwandan genocide suspects, said he still hoped the court would give verdicts on both rebel Revolutionary United Front (RUF) and loyalist Civil Defence Forces (CDF) suspects in March and April.

"The absence of both Chief Hinga Norman and Issa Sesay will not hinder the progress of the court," he said.

The indictment against Hinga Norman and two CDF co-defendants said members of the militia practised human sacrifice and cannibalism.

The court's highest-profile indictee, former president of neighbouring Liberia Charles Taylor, has been sent to a special sitting of the court in The Hague to face charges of war crimes linked to his support for the RUF during Sierra Leone's civil war, in which Sierra Leonean diamonds were sold to buy guns.

Taylor's trial was moved from Sierra Leone's capital Freetown after Liberia's new government raised concerns that his continued presence in the region was a threat to stability as Liberia recovered from its own devastating civil war.

The Special Court has suffered a series of setbacks in prosecuting top war crimes suspects.

RUF leader Foday Sankoh died in captivity in 2003, just months after his field commander Sam Bockarie was shot dead in Liberia.

Johnny Paul Koroma, the former leader of a military junta accused of atrocities, vanished several years ago and many Sierra Leoneans believe he is dead, although the court has not withdrawn his indictment.

## Agence France-Presse

Wednesday, 17 January 2007

### **S/Leone war crimes suspects flown to Dakar for medical reasons**

FREETOWN, Jan 17, 2007 (AFP) - Two key suspects appearing at a UN-backed court for crimes committed during Sierra Leone's civil war were flown to Dakar Wednesday for medical treatment, a legal source said.

The ex-deputy defence minister Hinga Norman and the former leader of rebel army United Revolutionary Front (URF) Issa Sesay "were flown by a UN aircraft to the Senegalese capital where they will be examined by doctors for their ailment," a court spokesman said at a press conference.

Their condition is not thought to be life-threatening, the spokesman said, adding that "the kind of medical treatment needed is not available in Sierra Leone".

The Special Court for Sierra Leone (SCSL) was set up by the government of Sierra Leone and the United Nations in 2002 after a decade of civil war that claimed up to 200,000 lives.

The brutal conflict ended in 2001 after UN and British forces disarmed thousands of militia and rebels in a massive peacekeeping effort.

The prosecutor for SCSL Stephen Rapp said: "I anticipate that the detainees will return to Freetown well in advance of the verdicts of their trials, which is likely to be either in March or April."

Norman is accused of murder, acts of terrorism, enlisting children into his army and failing to prevent the loss of life during the conflict between pro-government Kamajor militias and RUF rebels.

Issa Sesay, whose rebel fighters are thought to have executed and mutilated thousands of civilians, is accused of war crimes and crimes against humanity.

**BBC**

Thursday, 18 January 2007

**Fears for Sierra Leone 'war hero'**

The daughter of a man accused of war crimes in Sierra Leone has told the BBC that she fears for his life after he was transferred to Senegal.

Sam Hinga Norman led a pro-government militia during the civil war and many people in Sierra Leone see him as a war hero for fighting the rebels.

Juliet Hinga Norman said her father had been sent to a prison, not a hospital, for his hip replacement.

Ex-rebel leader Issa Sesay has also gone to Dakar for medical treatment.

The UN-backed Special Court for Sierra Leone did not say what Mr Sesay was suffering from.

Ms Norman said that if her father was not transferred to hospital, he would go on hunger strike.

"I'm really scared for his health," she told the BBC's Network Africa programme.

"I don't want him to do the operation in Senegal... I want them to do it in the UK," she said.

The special court was set up to prosecute those with most responsibility for war crimes during a brutal 10-year civil war.

The conflict spread across West Africa and created millions of refugees.



Sam Hinga Norman is accused of murder

United Nations  Nations Unies

United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL)

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## UNMIL Public Information Office Media Summary 18 January 2007

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

### International Clips on Liberia

#### **India sends first all-women UN peacekeeper team to Liberia**

WAZIRABAD, India, Jan 18, 2007 (AFP) - Combat training over, 125 of India's crack policewomen are to leave Sunday for Liberia to act as UN peacekeepers -- the first time the world body has deployed an all-female unit. The women -- who have served in India's worst flashpoints, from insurgency-hit Kashmir to the restive northeast -- will spend at least six months in Monrovia, capital of the west African nation now emerging from years of savage civil war.

#### **Czech honorary consul in Liberia faces fraud accusation at home**

Prague, Jan 17 CZECH NEWS AGENCY (CTK) - Karel Sochor, Czech honorary consul in Liberia, whom Liberian authorities suspect of several crimes, faces prosecution in the Czech Republic as well, Czech Television (CT) reported today, adding that Czech police suspect Sochor of fraud. Sochor committed fraud as he withheld information about his debt to a third company while selling a Liberian mine to a Czech entrepreneur, the police say.

### International Clips on West Africa

**BBC** 18 January 2007

#### **Fears for Sierra Leone 'war hero'**

The daughter of a man accused of war crimes in Sierra Leone has told the BBC that she fears for his life after he was transferred to Senegal. Sam Hinga Norman led a pro-government militia during the civil war and many people in Sierra Leone see him as a war hero for fighting the rebels. Juliet Hinga Norman said her father had been sent to a prison, not a hospital, for his hip replacement. Ex-rebel leader Issa Sesay has also gone to Dakar for medical treatment. The UN-backed Special Court for Sierra Leone did not say what Mr Sesay was suffering from.

#### **West African leaders to meet in Ouagadougou on Ivorian crisis**

ABUJA, Jan 17, 2007 (AFP) - West African leaders will hold a one-day meeting Friday in Burkina Faso's capital Ouagadougou when they will review the crisis in Ivory Coast, an official statement said Wednesday. The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) summit will review a report of the body's Mediation and Security Council -- composed of ECOWAS foreign ministers -- that has recommended dispatching a high-level delegation to Ivory Coast.

### Local Media – Newspaper

#### **Former Presidential Candidate Encourages Lawmakers to Resolve Conflict Constitutionally**

*(The Inquirer, National Chronicle, The News, Heritage, The Analyst and Daily Observer)*

- Addressing a news conference in Monrovia yesterday, the Liberty Party Standard Bearer Charles Brumskine called on Members of the House of Representatives currently seeking to

unseat Edwin Snowe as House Speaker, to do so within the framework of the Constitution of Liberia.

- He noted that under the Constitution, it was the prerogative of the National Legislature to change its presiding officer "for cause", but doubted the constitutionality of a mere two-third majority simply signing a resolution to effect the dismissal.

### **UN Envoy Urges Lawmakers to Resolve Leadership Impasse**

*(The News and The Inquirer)*

- The Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Mr. Alan Doss urged members of the House of Representatives to resolve the leadership impasse in order to carry on with the work for which they were elected.
- Speaking at a news conference in Monrovia yesterday, Mr. Doss mentioned that the House did not need external intervention as it remained its responsibility to resolve the crises.

### **"Fugitive" former SSS Director Roams West Africa – UN Panel Says**

*(The News)*

- A United Nations Panel of Experts on Liberia said in a report that "fugitive" former Special Security Services Director Benjamin Yeaten was currently roaming West Africa with his travels to Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia, The Netherlands and Togo in violation of UN Travel Ban on him.

### **Criminal Court Overrules Magistrate's Ruling over Defense Lawyers**

*(The News)*

- Criminal Court-C Judge Yusuf Kaba yesterday granted the petition of Mr. Tugbeh Doe to restore three of his defense lawyers who a Magisterial Court's ruling dropped on grounds that they worked in the judiciary sector of the Government which defendant Doe served as Deputy Finance Minister for Administration when allegedly stole monies from State coffers.

**Local Media – Radio Veritas** *(News monitored today at 9:45 am)*

### **Opposition Politician Denounces Unconstitutional Means to Remove Speaker**

*(Also reported on ELBS and Star Radio)*

### **Government and Partners Organize Tutorials for Female Police Recruits**

- Making the disclosure at UNMIL weekly press briefing, Education Minister, Dr. Joseph Kortu said Government and the UN mission have designed a special tutorial program for female applicants in the police force.
- Dr. Joseph Kortu said the program targets three hundred young female high school drop-outs who would undergo a three-month basic high school instruction intended to prepare them for a high school equivalent test to be administered by the West African Examination Council and said successful candidates would qualify to join the police.

*(Also reported on ELBS and Star Radio)*

### **FAO Says Liberia Recorded Improved Food Security**

- Speaking when the UN Food and Agriculture Agency (FAO) provided \$US90, 000 to help reform the country's forest sector, FAO-Liberia Country Director, Mr. Winfred Hammond said Liberia food security recovery program improved last year but thought much needs to be done by providing greater support to enhance the work of farmers.
- Agriculture Minister, Dr. Chris Toe thanked the FAO and assured that the gesture would be used appropriately.

### **UNMIL and Police Commence Reducing Number of Checkpoints**

- UNMIL and the Liberia National Police have begun removing a number of check points around the country.
- Speaking at UNMIL weekly press briefing, the Special Representative of the Secretary General, Mr. Allan Doss and Police Inspector, Beatrice Mona Sieh said the number of checkpoints is being reduced due to improvement in the security situation.

- Mr. Doss said UNMIL Military and Police are now moving away from large number of fixed checkpoints to more flexible and rapid responses and deterrent.

### **Open Society Initiative Gives \$US 100,000 to Enhance Democracy in Liberia**

- The Open Society Initiative for Africa (OSIWA) has provided \$US 100,000 to enhance democracy in Liberia.
- In an interview, the information officer of the National Elections Commission (NEC), Bobby Livingstone said as part of the project, NEC will conduct a one day civic education and democracy conference for grassroots communities in Gbarnga, Bong County to discuss their role in enhancing democracy in the country.

### **Star Radio** *(News culled from website today at 9:00 am)*

#### **Deputy Speaker Mulbah Assures Protesting Lawmakers**

- In an Interview, the Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives, Mr. Togba Mulbah assured his colleagues that the resolution to remove Speaker Snowe would be given urgent attention but called on them to first return to the Centennial Pavilion where the "beleaguered" Speaker is holding office.

#### **British Oil Company Targets US\$15m Investment for Liberia**

- A British oil company has announced a fifteen billion United States dollar investment package for Liberia.
- At a news conference, the Managing Director of Broadway Consolidated PLC, Mr. Gary Allsopp said his entity would invest the amount in Liberia over the next 20 years to help develop Liberia oil industry.

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*Complete versions of the UNMIL International Press Clips, UNMIL Daily Liberian Radio Summary and UNMIL Liberian Newspapers Summary are posted each day on the UNMIL Bulletin Board. If you are unable to access the UNMIL Bulletin Board or would like further information on the content of the summaries, please contact Mr. Weah Karpeh at [karpeh@un.org](mailto:karpeh@un.org).*



## Associated Press

Thursday, 18 January 2007

### Taylor Haunts a Liberia in Transition

By HEIDI VOGT  
Associated Press Writer



A girl carrying bananas for sale walks past a billboard with a picture of Liberia's former president Charles Taylor, in Monrovia, Liberia, Wednesday, Jan. 17, 2007. The face of the man whose army burned and raped its way across Liberia smiles down on the capital from a white billboard with a bold proclamation: "Charles Taylor is innocent." (AP Photo/George Osodi)

The face of the man whose army burned and raped its way across Liberia smiles down on the capital from a white billboard with a bold proclamation: Charles Taylor is innocent.

Put up a week ago by a group trying to raise money for the legal defense of the former Liberian president charged with war crimes in neighboring Sierra Leone, the sign shows how strongly some still support Taylor in the country his forces ransacked.

President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf recently said she saw no reason for Liberia to try Taylor when Sierra Leone was already doing so. She said she'd rather focus on rebuilding her ruined nation's wasted infrastructure. It's a stance that may seem shocking to a world that recently watched Iraq hang Saddam Hussein, particularly in a nation still haunted by years of brutal warfare that spawned drugged child soldiers and amputees.

Even some high-ranking elected officials are Taylor backers and some who condemn the warlord-turned-president say Liberia should leave well enough alone.

"Charles Taylor is not the only bad man in Liberia ... There were so many," said 23-year-old Tenneh Dudu, adding that Taylor's government helped pay for her primary schooling.

Liberia's Information Ministry said the billboard is protected as free speech and the government has no plans to protest it.

Many observers say Taylor, who is jailed in the Netherlands, is so far out of the picture now that the show of support doesn't threaten the country.

"We don't see any past governments or elements of any past governments" as posing a current security threat, said Ben Malor, spokesman for the U.N.'s 15,000-strong peacekeeping force. Taylor's fighters have nearly all been disarmed, Malor said.

But not all agree. Aid groups have argued that continuing unemployment makes the ex-combatants a potential

danger. And Taylor was moved from Sierra Leone to the Hague for trial after Sirleaf said this summer that trying him in Africa could threaten her fledgling government and become a rallying point for Taylor's supporters.

Liberia's small population - about 3 million people - means many had a connection to Taylor at one time. Even Sirleaf briefly backed his 1989 rebellion against then-dictator Samuel Doe.

The head of Liberia's Truth and Reconciliation Commission says most Liberians would rather just get on with their lives than seek justice.

"Liberia has a culture, deeply rooted in religious beliefs, which more or less prepares people to forgive and forget," said Jerome Verdier, chairman of the commission, which was created to take testimony from victims and perpetrators in the war.

Taylor's forces toppled Doe in 1990 and Taylor won the presidency in 1997, beating Sirleaf. International observers deemed the vote fair, but some say he won because Liberians feared what he would do if he lost.

"Taylor's constituency was not one of political allegiance. It was born from intimidation," said Human Rights Watch researcher Corinne Dufka.

Two years later, a new rebellion began and, in 2003, rebels forced Taylor to flee to Nigeria.

While he was in exile, the U.N.-backed Sierra Leone court charged Taylor with war crimes for his role in backing rebels who conscripted child soldiers, hacked off peoples' hands, burned villages and raped multitudes of women in Sierra Leone.

Sirleaf took office in January 2006 and called for Taylor's extradition to Sierra Leone a few months later. He was captured at the Nigerian border as he attempted to flee. He is awaiting trial at the Hague, and has pleaded not guilty.

The group that put up the billboard, the Association for the Legal Defense of Charles G. Taylor, says their cause will help Liberia's transition to the rule of law.

"We didn't put up a signboard saying 'Free Mr. Taylor,'" said John Richardson, a retired architect who once negotiated for Taylor's rebels and serves as a spokesman for the group of Taylor backers. "Mr. Taylor's innocence should be a point of law and justice: The concept of innocent until proven guilty."

Richardson said that in a country where an accused thief is more likely to get stoned to death than taken to court, the billboard provides a civics lesson.

"In every area of our everyday life, we see where the failure to apply that basic principle (of innocence until proven guilty) is happening," he said.

Still, the group's primary goal is to garner support for Taylor - a feat not as difficult in Monrovia as those reading the charges of war crimes and crimes against humanity might believe.

Taylor has many friends in Liberia's government. His ex-wife, Jewel Howard-Taylor, is a senator, one of four from Taylor's political party. The House of Representatives also has four members from Taylor's party.

John Hopkins, 52, a retired police officer who says he was jailed and whipped by Taylor's rebels, criticized the billboard. "They should wait until he's not guilty before they put it there," he said.

## BBC Online

Thursday, 18 January 2007

### Ex-Taylor ally sacked as speaker

Liberia's parliament speaker Edwin Snowe has been sacked after a vote of no-confidence by MPs.

They accuse the former son-in-law to ex-President Charles Taylor of breaking two parliamentary laws.

But Mr Snowe apologised to parliament for these two indiscretions last year and was pardoned by the chamber.

He told the BBC that he was consulting his lawyers as he suspected those who voted against him were bribed by the president's office, which it denied.



Mr Snowe was married to Charles Taylor's eldest daughter

President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf came to power a year ago after a peace process that ended a brutal 14-year civil war.

Mr Taylor is awaiting trial by a UN-backed court in The Hague for alleged war crimes committed in Sierra Leone.

### Popular

The BBC's Jonathan Paye-Layle says Mr Snowe was removed from his post by 43 MPs after days of disarray in the 63-member chamber.

Our correspondent says the position of speaker of the House of Representatives is seen as the third most powerful political post in the country.

The issue has been a major media talking point as Mr Snowe - a former president of the Liberian Football Association - enjoys considerable popularity, he says.

“  
”  
Cyrus Badio  
Presidential press secretary

He was sacked for taking an interpreter on a trip without permission and meddling in Liberia's diplomatic policy on China - for which he apologised and received a parliamentary pardon.

Presidential Press Secretary Cyrus Badio has denied claims that Mrs Johnson-Sirleaf was behind the removal.

"What is happening in the legislature is purely a legislative matter," he said.

Mr Snowe is still under a UN travel ban - relaxed by parliament last year for him to travel to Qatar - as part of sanctions imposed on Mr Taylor's close associates in 2001.

He is accused by the UN of financing Mr Taylor's activities.

## BBC Online

Thursday, 18 January 2007

### Guinea anger over dead strikers

The death of three protesters in Guinea has galvanised support for a national strike now in its ninth day.

A BBC correspondent says many thousands are demonstrating across the country, braving teargas and rubber bullets.

Workers who were initially striking over the high cost of living, now want the resignation of President Lansana Conte and his government.

But a minister says the government had fulfilled their demands by increasing salaries and cutting some taxes.

This is the third general strike in a year.

Mr Conte, who seized power in a 1984 coup and has since won three elections, is in his 70s and in poor health suffering from diabetes.

### Bullet wounds

The BBC's Alhassan Sillah says some 5,000 demonstrators have taken to the streets in the capital, Conakry and tens of thousands are marching in regional towns.

Earlier this week, workers in bauxite mines - the country's main source of revenue - stopped work in support of the strike.

Our correspondent says two people are reported to have died from bullet wounds on Wednesday in Conakry.

Another person was killed in the town of Labe, the country's second city.

However, the police say they did not fire live rounds at the demonstrations.

Police spokesman Mamadi Mansare told state television that his men are on strict orders to disperse demonstrators by firing teargas.

### 'Death threat'

On Tuesday night, a presidential statement, read out by speaker of parliament on television, offered to cut fuel prices, increase teachers' salaries and tackle police corruption.

But union leaders rejected them, saying they wanted a new government.

They were then arrested, but later released.

Union leaders have accused the president of threatening to kill them.



President Conte seized power in a 1984 coup

“  
that the people are  
”  
Diplomat

"He threatened us with death, he insulted us," Ibrahima Fofana, head of the Guinean Workers' Union, told Reuters news agency.

Foreign minister Mamady Conde met foreign diplomats on Thursday morning in a closed-door session.

A communique released afterwards said: "The government is surprised at the actions of the unions vis-a-vis the government's efforts at satisfying their demands."

One diplomat, who asked not to be named, said the situation did not look hopeful.

"We don't feel we're heading for a quick end to this crisis. We have the impression that the people are determined to obtain something concrete... they don't want any more promises," they told Reuters.

The strikers were also angered at the alleged involvement of President Conte in securing the release of two men, including Guinea's richest man Mamadou Sylla, accused of corruption.

Last year, Guinea was ranked by Transparency International as the most corrupt country in Africa.

## McClatchy Newspapers

Thursday, 18 January 2007

<http://www.thestate.com/mld/thestate/news/world/16490917.htm>

### Violence down sharply in sub-Saharan Africa

By Frank Greve

WASHINGTON - After decades as the world's most violent region, sub-Saharan Africa has lost that unwanted title and is finding peace.

The number of conflicts south of the Sahara Desert is down sharply, according to two new tallies, and so is their lethality. The reports' authors credit successful peacemaking and peace-building efforts by international organizations such as the United Nations, the African Union and the European Union as well as interventions by individual African countries.



"This is very good news," said one of the authors, Andrew Mack, the director of the Human Security Centre at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver. It's a conflict-reduction research center funded by the Rockefeller Foundation and the governments of Canada, Sweden, Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

According to the center's Human Security Brief 2006, most of the drop in violence is recent. From 2002 through 2005, the number of sub-Saharan conflicts in which government troops participated dropped from 13 to 5. The number between factions or tribes that didn't involve government forces dropped from 24 to 14.

Also down was the lethality of conflicts in the region, which comprises 46 countries south of the Sahara Desert. For state-backed conflicts, which are the deadliest, the region's estimated combat death toll in 2005 was 1,851. As recently as 1999, it was nearly 100,000.

Sudan's Darfur region, the site of Africa's most-publicized ongoing conflict, wasn't included because the Vancouver center classifies Sudan as part of North Africa. If Sudan had been included, however, it wouldn't have changed the overall picture.

"The trend is undeniable," said Susan Rice, who was the assistant secretary of state for Africa in the Clinton administration and is now a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, a public policy research center in Washington. She's worried, however, about recent surges of violence in Somalia as well as in Sudan, both of which the State Department counts as part of sub-Saharan Africa.

Princeton Lyman, a former U.S. ambassador to South Africa and Nigeria who's a senior fellow for Africa policy studies at the Council on Foreign Relations research center, was more optimistic about the trend toward peace. "I think it's going to last, because the Africans are very concerned about it," he said.

Both former diplomats credited the African Union with effective peacemaking. That alliance of 53 African countries was founded in 2001 to end intra-African conflict and create a common market.



"There's more effort under way, more seriousness and more leadership on the part of the Africans," Lyman said.

Both also credited the United Nations, now operating in Congo, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Central African Republic, Ivory Coast, Burundi and Sudan.

In sub-Saharan Africa in 2002, state-based armed conflicts were under way in Angola (two), Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo-Brazzaville, Ethiopia (two), Ivory Coast, Liberia, Rwanda, Somalia and Uganda.

In 2005, conflicts persisted only in Burundi, Chad, Ethiopia (two) and Uganda.

An article in the March Foreign Policy Bulletin reports the same trend in sub-Saharan conflicts. It's also borne out by fewer refugees fleeing conflicts and, to a lesser degree, fewer internally displaced people trying to do the same.

"We're reaching the point where most of the fighting has stopped in most of Africa," said the article's author, Monty Marshall, the director of research at the Center for Global Policy, a conflict analysis group at George Mason University in Arlington, Va.

Central and South Asia is supplanting sub-Saharan Africa as the world's most war-torn region, according to Mack's center. It's composed of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Sri Lanka and the Maldives.

If the sub-Saharan peace outbreak surprises most people, Mack said, that reflects the singular focus of journalists and human rights advocates on conflicts and abuses of power, especially when it comes to Africa.

"Wars get lots of news coverage," said Mack, a former BBC journalist. "But when wars peter out, that tends not to get covered."

By the same token, he said, "Human rights organizations like Human Rights Watch exist to draw attention to abuses of power. It's not their job to tell us things are getting better."

Iain Levine, the program director for Human Rights Watch, based in New York, didn't disagree.

"We're not providing an objective overview of global trends," he said. Rather, the group's purpose is to spotlight injustices that need international attention.

His group and Mack's, Levine added, "are doing different important things."

**Special Court Supplement**  
**Verbatim Transcript of the Press Conference by the Registrar and the Prosecutor at the**  
**Sierra Leone News Agency (SLENA) on Wednesday, 17 January 2007**

**Opening remarks by the Registrar, Mr. Lovemore Munlo, SC.**

Lovemore Munlo: It's a very special morning today that I come to talk to you. First of all, it's the beginning of the year, and I wish you all a very successful and happy new year. And I also want to say we will continue as we have done in the past getting in touch with you to exchange views and also to give you information that we can give.

**Introduction of the new Prosecutor**

Today I have come here, the most important matter I've come with, is to introduce to you the new Prosecutor for the Special Court for Sierra Leone, Mr. Stephen Rapp. Mr. Stephen Rapp comes to the



Special Court with vast experience. He is a distinguished son of the State of Iowa in the United States where he worked as an elected legislator in the State of Iowa. He has been in private practice. He has also worked as a head of staff and consul for a U.S. judicial committee. That only prepared him for his position at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda where he worked as Senior Trial Attorney responsible for prosecution of those who are charged before the tribunal. He was on one of the trial teams, among many trial teams, that were dealing with the cases in Arusha.

After a distinguished career as a Senior Trial Attorney, he was appointed – or promoted, rather – the Chief of Prosecutions. His responsibility was to supervise all the trial teams dealing with cases at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda. I had the privilege of working with him for, I think, 4-1/2 years and I saw his career advance. This is a combination of a very good career which he has had, but now he has been appointed as Prosecutor for the Special Court for Sierra Leone.

I will be asking him to talk to you and maybe [if you have questions] he'll answer your questions.

**Briefing on the Senegal operation**

I just wanted to say that, in addition to this, I thought that I should also brief you about what is happening at the Court.

Today, this morning, we started an operation to get two of the detainees specialised medical treatment go to Senegal for treatment. These detainees are Mr. Hinga Norman and also Mr. Sesay. They left the Court premises exactly at 8:00 this morning and by 9:00 they were at the Lungi International Airport. They boarded a private plane. They must by now have arrived in Senegal. They have been accompanied by members of staff of the Special Court, and this is being done in close cooperation with the Government of Senegal, for which we are very grateful for giving us facilities, excellent facilities, medical facilities and very experienced medical staff to look after our detainees. From here, our

detainees have left with their medical doctor, Dr. Harding who [indistinct] last time [indistinct] press conference.

So these are the things I wanted to say before I ask the Prosecutor to talk to you. Mr. Prosecutor.

### **Opening remarks by the Prosecutor, Mr. Stephen Rapp**

Stephen Rapp: Well, thank you very much Lovemore. I asked for this box so I could stand up. I have a bit of a cold today, and I wanted to be able to be heard and project my voice to answer your questions. Thank you for the kind introduction. And I'd also like to thank the Sierra Leone News Agency for hosting this event.



It is wonderful to be here with you and I am very pleased that my first press conference as Prosecutor of the Special Court is with you. You're the journalists of Sierra Leone, and I wanted to be sure that before I spoke with the international press, I first met with

Sierra Leone's domestic reporters so that I could tell you personally how important I believe the work of the Special Court is to the people of this country, and to its future.

First, let me tell you a bit about myself, and Lovemore has mentioned some of it. I am originally from a small town in the rural state of Iowa, in the United States. In my early career I worked in private practice as a lawyer on the staff of the US Senate in Washington and as an elected representative of my area in the legislature of the State of Iowa. In 1993 former President Bill Clinton appointed me as the United States Attorney, the Prosecutor for Northern Iowa, where I served for eight years until 2001. I then joined the Prosecution of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, serving, as Lovemore said, as a Senior Trial Attorney – as the team leader for a case in court, specifically the media trial – a trial that took some 34 months at the Rwanda tribunal where the defendants were accused of committing genocide and crimes against humanity by virtue of the terrible hate speech they spread over the radio, specifically the radio station RTLM, and through a newspaper – a newspaper Kangur – first case since World War II involving committing essentially these horrible crimes through speech, and specifically, through the media. We were very proud that in December 2003 the Trial Chamber convicted the three accused of genocide, of incitement to commit genocide, conspiracy to commit genocide, and extermination and persecution as crimes against humanity.

After that I became the Chief of Prosecutions at the Rwanda tribunal, a position that I held until I came here earlier this month as Prosecutor of the Special Court.

Becoming the Prosecutor is for me a dream come true. I'm honoured and humbled to be part of an important endeavour in the history of this country; an endeavour that I believe is marking a turning point for Sierra Leone. Since the end of the war the international community, the government of Sierra Leone and the people of this nation have been working to create a more stable, prosperous and just society. The Special Court is certainly not the only part of that effort, but it's a crucial component. The Court is both a concrete example and a symbol of the turning point in this nation. For many years there was chaos, now there is order. Where there was volatility and violence, there is now peace. Where once wicked men shattered many thousands of lives, now impunity no longer reigns.

The Court also represents a greater hope for the international community as a whole. In the words of the United Nations Security Council, it is part of an effort "to end impunity, establish the rule of law

and promote respect for human rights and by doing so to restore and maintain international peace and security.”

The Court recently reached a significant milestone with the completion of the trials in the CDF and the AFRC cases. In the coming months the Judges in these cases will render their verdicts. The RUF trial continues in May with the presentation of the Defence evidence. Finally, the trial of Charles Taylor will begin this year in The Hague. The Court’s Outreach Programme, with which I’m sure you’re all familiar, has capitalized on the Court’s domestic location to communicate the Court’s message to every one of the 14 (sic.) districts, to every corner of this country and ensure that a maximum number of citizens learn about what is happening in the case, and in the Taylor case. For this reason, some are concerned about the decision to move the trial of Charles Taylor to The Hague. And while I support this decision as necessary for the stability of the region, let me say how important I believe it is that the Taylor trial be brought home to the people of Sierra Leone and to this region. Every effort is being made and will be made to ensure that Sierra Leoneans have transparent access to this trial. Each case at the Special Court is heard, argued and decided in the name of the people of Sierra Leone. The Judges, some of whom come from Sierra Leone, and attorneys for both the Prosecutor and the Defence that include Sierra Leoneans, and the many miles between here and Mr. Taylor will not change that.

So let me say once again how pleased I am to be with you today and how honoured I am to be part of this significant chapter in the history of your country. And I’ll be happy to take your questions.

### **Questions and Answers**

Q: (Indistinct) Charles Taylor has been taken to The Hague (indistinct) and most of the atrocities committed affected the people of Sierra Leone and Liberia. Don’t you think it’s more (indistinct) for the Special Court to facilitate (indistinct) journalists so they can cover Charles Taylor’s trial in The Hague so that the people of Sierra Leone...

RAPP: Well I think it’s real important that the trial be covered and that Sierra Leone journalists have access to all parts of it. Now I think that Peter Andersen can discuss and describe the work that’s been done by the BBC Trust that I think will provide opportunities for Sierra Leone journalists to attend at The Hague and also to receive audio and video and other materials from The Court so that you can do your job. But that’s in the area of Outreach and Public Relations and Public Affairs that’s not specifically in the area of the Prosecutor. But we work very cooperatively in this area, and we’re going to do everything we can to get that level of support. I’m off on a visit this weekend in Europe and in the United States and North America with President King – the President of the Court, Justice King – and we’re going to be talking to national authorities for whom we rely for contributions, but we’re also going to be talking to non-governmental organisations, and an important part of the support that we seek will be toward this effort of Public Information and Outreach. We do not want to die with the secret of the Court. We don’t want to put on great evidence and have a judgment and decisions and for the people affected not to know about it. Because if they don’t know about it, they’re denied justice, but also what we’re hoping is that a message is sent that no matter how big you are, no one is above justice, and that those who suffered because of the alleged acts of an individual will receive justice and will receive information about it. And of course to the extent that they’re witnesses, will be well treated and have an opportunity to tell their story in a way that doesn’t compromise their safety and security.

Q. (Indistinct) the state of illness of Issa Sesay and Chief Norman?

RAPP: Well I think the Registrar specifically addressed that. We cannot under medical confidentiality describe – none of us can – describe what a person’s medical condition is. That’s an issue of medical confidentiality and I think that the patients themselves would object if we stood here and talked about their medical condition, and they would have the right to. We’ve said before that these conditions are

not life-threatening, that the operations that they receive are common, that they're going to receive them from top doctors, and we look forward to good procedures and to recovery that will permit them to be returned to detention in the next few weeks here in Freetown.

Q: (Christo Johnson, Reuters) I just want to come up with a supplementary. You are a man of justice, and if we are talking about justice and this nation, we all know how important – you have said it – no man is above the law, which we agree. Now, Hinga Norman, however, is a Sierra Leonean, and Sierra Leoneans want to know about his health. So are we saying it's a hidden secret? I agree, you need to get the medical advice. But the people want to know about his health. Is it in secret...in terms of justice?



RAPP: We, every day in court and every day when we do our job, have to follow the rules, and a Prosecutor doesn't break the rules. And sometimes we'd like to be able to answer questions that we can't answer. And in this particular case, neither the Registrar nor myself can answer. Obviously if you contacted the attorneys for these two gentlemen, they can contact their clients and decide what information should be released. But it's not for us to talk about somebody's health condition, just like it wouldn't be for us to reveal one of your sources publicly that you've guaranteed confidentiality to. We respect other professions and in the medical profession there's this confidentiality, and we do have information ourselves that's been provided to us because we have to make these arrangements, but it's been provided to us only on the condition that we don't re-disclose it. So we have to abide by that.

Q: (Clarence Roy-Macaulay, AP) In other words, what you are saying, they are going for an operation which could not be done here in Sierra Leone.

MUNLO: I think maybe in fairness to the Prosecutor, the Prosecutor does not look after detainees. That responsibility falls on the Registrar, and I'm grateful to him that he's tried as best as possible to give you answers. I think the bottom line is what he has said: that even for you reporters, you have your own ethics. You will not reveal the sources of your information. And me, when Peter tells me that I have this information but this is how I got it, we don't reveal the source of information. I must respect him as my professional advising me about what will annoy reporters if they knew I did it. Similarly, the doctor – you know these people have a doctor – and last time I brought the doctor here. You talked to him. I need not repeat. You saw how he told you about confidentiality about his patients. He has also said the same thing to me, that have taken these people away from me. That is why I haven't gone with him. He knows what is happening to them. He has put a stop that I cannot talk about their conditions. But you see, you being reporters also know how you can get more information. We are the wrong people to give you that information. The Court has provided to Hinga Norman and to Issa Sesay Defence counsel with whom they share information. Maybe Hinga Norman would want to consult his lawyer, how much he can say and how much he cannot say. Those people, you could get it from them, but from us, it will be a breach of confidentiality. As a custodian of these people, I have no authority whatsoever to reveal what is happening in their bodies, unless they tell me to do that.

Q: (Clarence Roy-Macaulay, AP) (Indistinct) I just want you to confirm that they have gone to Dakar, Senegal (indistinct) kind of operation which cannot be done here.

MUNLO: They have gone to Dakar, Senegal to be seen by doctors. It has not been yet identified. If it had been identified, maybe our doctor would have dealt with it here. They have gone there, they will be meeting the doctors any time from today. After they have meet them and the doctors have (word

indistinct), they will tell us what the situation is. But right now, they have not yet met the doctors. It will be speculation for me to give you the information you want. I don't have it.

Q: (Christo Johnson, Reuters) Excuse me, you are the Registrar. If you are the Registrar, I'm sure you are the man responsible for the entire Court, looking after the affairs of the Court. And I believe the case of Hinga Norman and other detainees in there, when they are to be pulled out of that area for any area to travel to, you as Registrar must be properly informed. They cannot do it without your consent. Is that correct?

MUNLO: That is very correct. I'm properly informed by my doctor that the kind of medical treatment they need to have, he cannot give it to them. He is taking them to Senegal to meet doctors who are qualified and experienced and have the necessary medical facilities to look at the nature of the illness that they have. That has not been done. It will be done now when they go to the hospital. I cannot pre-empt or know what the doctors...

Q: (Christo Johnson, Reuters) (Indistinct) the nature of the illness (indistinct). Can we stress how serious it is?

MUNLO: Well, they walked to the helipad. They went in the plane. We are talking to them. Hinga Norman was in a very high mood, spirits, that's what I've been told by the people who took him to the helipad. That's as much as I can say.

Q: Are they accompanied by their family members?

MUNLO: I think all family members know to...

Q: Lawyers. Are they accompanied by their lawyers also?

MUNLO: They are not accompanied by their lawyers. This is a medical situation; they have been accompanied by their doctor who looks after them – not their lawyers.

Q: (Christo Johnson, Reuters) (Indistinct)

MUNLO: They left today. Yes. They left the Court 8:00. They were at the...

Q: (Christo Johnson, Reuters) (Indistinct) helicopter this morning.

MUNLO: Exactly. They were at Lungi by nine and by nine sharp they left for Senegal.

Q: Is the illness a minor one?

MUNLO: I cannot say that. I'm not a doctor. That's what the doctor is going to tell us.

Q: (Christo Johnson, Reuters) We had the case of the late Foday Sankoh you are playing, others played with us as journalists with Foday Sankoh, until certain time David Crane and others, even though they were trying to hide to us when Foday Sankoh was dead. But in our own way as journalists we sought it out and discovered that Foday Sankoh was dead. We really want to get the clear picture because there is still questions to be answered by the readers or audience: What's wrong with him? This is our problem. We know you have not been allowed by the medical authority to say. But if this is a serious matter, though you have said he was in a high spirit. Yes! Foday Sankoh was in a high spirit – but he died!



Q: (Clarence Roy-Macaulay, AP) You are aware that both of them have been ill for some time now. Am I right to say that?

MUNLO: Well, like everybody else they have a condition that comes up and goes off. I am also continuously ill. Every human being, as soon you come in this world, there's the undermining process that sets in your body. So I cannot tell you that they have never been ill when they were in the detention. They were ill, some of these illnesses were treated by the doctor we have in the detention facility. It so happens that for the disease they have now, the doctor has advised me he would want to go to a country where they have better medical facilities, where they have more experienced doctors than him on the ailments that have been said, so that they would help him look at that. This is why he has accompanied them. He will be there together with them, and see the doctors they are going to meet in the...

Q: (Indistinct)

MUNLO: Dr. Harding. They have their own...

Q: (Indistinct)

MUNLO: Donald Harding. He was here last time we had...

Q: (Clarence Roy-Macaulay, AP) Would I be correct to say that for some time now Issa Sesay has been complaining of having a bullet lodged in one of his legs for which he has been suffering (indistinct)?

MUNLO: I think I have already told you, I think you are asking me... You know I can't answer you that question.

Q: (Clarence Roy-Macaulay, AP) (Indistinct) you declined to answer, that's all. I put the question and you declined to answer.

MUNLO: Yes, I cannot discuss the medical condition of the detainees. It would be a breach of their human rights.

Q: (Kelvin Lewis, Awoko) Mr. Munlo, my question is why Senegal, and was it necessary for the Special Court to sign an agreement with the Senegalese agreement for those people to be taken there?

MUNLO: Yes, we signed an agreement with the Senegalese government just to make sure that their safety is assured while they are there for medical treatment, and that after medical treatment they come back to Freetown to the detention where they are so that they can continue with their case. So it was very important not just to take them there without making arrangements assuring their security.

Q: Indistinct

MUNLO: Well, let's not speculate. I cannot answer speculative questions, because those things haven't arisen. All I can assure you is that I have made arrangements to make sure that when they go there I will cooperate with the Senegalese authorities that they are there only for the purposes for which we have sent them – medical treatment. After that, the Senegalese authorities will assure me that they will come back, and they will facilitate for their movement out of Senegal back to the detention where they left from.

Q: (Clarence Roy-Macaulay, AP) How long are they going to be there?

MUNLO: I have already answered that the diagnosis hasn't even been done. They have just gone today. That is a matter for the doctor to...

Q: (Kelvin Lewis, Awoko) Did that agreement determine the country they were going to, because the same (medical) facilities that are available in Senegal are available in Ghana; they are also available in Nigeria...

MUNLO: They are available in many countries. You cannot take them to all those countries. You have only to choose one country.

Q: (Kelvin Lewis, Awoko) Why Senegal? Because of that agreement – that the Senegalese government agreed to provide those assurances and you were not (indistinct) provide those assurances?

MUNLO: Even if we took them to Ghana we would expect Ghana to sign a similar agreement as the Senegalese have signed. It doesn't matter which country. Whichever country would have allowed us to take them there, we would have asked them to sign this agreement for our own internal security provisions, so that we are sure this going to the hospital does not undermine the judicial process afoot.

Q: (Christo Johnson, Reuters) Are we saying that the absence of these two alleged people, Hinga Norman and Issa, does it cause any effect to the proceeding of the Court?

RAPP: My understanding of this arrangement for medical treatment is that they will be returned to Freetown well in advance of the expected date of the verdict in the CDF case in the case of Hinga Norman and the restart of the RUF case in the case of Issa Sesay. We're hoping that we'll have verdicts in March or April. So we don't expect there to be any problem. Obviously they will have access to their attorneys in terms of anything that may be occurring in submissions in those cases, but the arguments have been made in the case of the CDF case and it's solely in the hands of the Judges of Trial Chamber I. In the case of the RUF case obviously there's some decisions that Defence is presumably making about witnesses, and we expect the Defence who wanted this medical treatment to be able to consult with their client about that. So we don't anticipate any interference with the trial process. I do want to say this: I'm new here. I've been fully briefed by Mr. Munlo and I've talked to others, but we very much appreciate the good work of the Registrar's office in arranging for this and here at the Special Court, where we're not a United Nations court, we can't snap our fingers and other countries will respond as a matter of international law. We have to constantly rely on cooperation of other countries, and that involves diplomatic skill. It involved it in the situation of obtaining arrangements for the eventual imprisonment of Mr. Taylor if he is convicted, with the United Kingdom. It's involving, in this case, countries in the region for medical care. That takes a lot of effort, negotiation and obviously a difficult issue always when you're dealing with individuals who have been accused of very serious and grave crimes, and most countries being reluctant to allow people like that into their country. So it's a large effort to make sure that these things go well and I really salute the Registrar for negotiating the agreement making it possible to receive quality medical care, respecting the human rights of the detainees, creating a situation where they would remain in the custody of the Special Court when they're in Dakar or wherever in Senegal and on their way back, so the rights of the accused are protected, and the rights of the victims and the people of Sierra Leone that have an interest in justice in these cases and them being present, and them being adjudged for the crimes, whether they are guilty or innocent and eventually sentenced if they are found guilty. And I think everyone's interests have been served here and the Registrar has done the right thing and should be commended.

Q: (Clarence Roy-Macaulay, AP) Why have they been taken out only now for this medical treatment?

RAPP: Well, we can't speak to that, but I think you can sense that arrangements in terms of agreements with the countries, agreements for security, for transport, for everything else, are necessarily things that

take time and negotiation. In every situation it's a matter of asking others to assist us and to make the facilities available. And in this situation, given – as Mr. Andersen has said – not talking about a life-threatening condition in the case of either individual, that it was appropriate to take the steps that were done and we think that everything in this matter will turn out for the best.

Q: (Kelvin Lewis, Awoko) You are the third Prosecutor, the third substantive Prosecutor. in as many years that the Court has functioned for. What assurances are you giving us that you are going to be the last?

RAPP: Well, I took this appointment to finish the mission of this Court. I was at the ICTR for almost six years. I know there are many people in many of these court that are not there anywhere near that long. But I believe very much in committing to a job and completing that job. We're fortunate now I think to have reached a point in the history of the Special Court where we can see the end. We can see the completion, and we can see how to get there. And as I said before, I'm going with Justice King, Justice Gelaga-King, to the United States and to Europe. I'll be meeting with the Management Committee next week in New York, and basically we're going to be able to sit down say 'these verdicts are going to come in in the AFRC and CDF cases. The evidence will be concluded in the RUF case this year. Judgments will be rendered in that case. The Appeals Judges will arrive here, those that are not here already, such as Justice King, within the next several months to hear the appeals which we presume there'll be from either side in the CDF or the AFRC case, to then hear the appeals in the RUF case. The Taylor case will start this year. It's currently scheduled for April 2nd. We'll find out at the Status Conference next Friday, which I'll attend at The Hague, what the trial date will be. It may well be moved back to June or July, but it's entirely within the hands of the Judges. The Defence has asked that it be moved to September. The Prosecutor has said that some delay is justified, but not beyond July, but it's in the hands of the Judges. That case will start in the next several months, and we believe be concluded by the end of 2008. And so we will look to a situation where, by the end of 2008, appeals will be decided in the AFRC and CDF cases; in 2009 they'll be decided in the RUF and the Taylor case, presuming there are appeals. And so we can now look, I think, for the Special Court to – after a very busy year of 2007 – to be winding down its work to an absolute completion by the end of 2009. And for that reason the Secretary-General appointed me as Prosecutor for three years or until the work is done, whichever comes first. And obviously if we can get it done more quickly we will.

Q: (Kelvin Lewis, Awoko) How far do you stand funding (indistinct).

MUNLO: Well, we have confidence that the funding will be available for the last three years of the life of the Court. The Prosecutor, the President and the Deputy Registrar are leaving this week for the United States to talk to some of our supporters who give us funding for the Court to see how we will go about raising funds. The Management Committee, which you know which runs the Court, is also very much geared to hear our views on how we should put the package together for the last three years so that the Court goes on efficiently and without disruption. So there is a plan in place. We are working towards that, and we have confidence that we will get the money to finalise our work in three years time.

Q: (Kelvin Lewis, Awoko) (Indistinct) you need?

MUNLO: We are working on it now. We are working on it because of the new developments. We are talking to the International Criminal Court where we are renting premises to try this case. Some of the costs, you cannot work on them. They needed to see when we start operating, how the issues will go on. So it's an ongoing process. I will not be honest to you to stand here today and say 'this will be the figure', because we are still working on it. All I can tell you is we have the confidence that we will have the funding to bring this whole process to a successful conclusion.

Q: (Clarence Roy-Macaulay, AP) How much have you spent so far?

MUNLO: Well I cannot give you the exact figure but I think we have spent in the region of \$125 million or something like that, thereabouts, in the three years that the Court has been running. That will include of course costs not only for running the Court – you will remember that when we went to New England we had to revamp the whole place and put it in the condition that you see it today. We have the world-class kind of courtroom. Though costs are also part of the \$125 million I'm talking about. It's not only running the Court, it's also bringing the facilities at which the Court should operate.

Q: You said just now you are going to America to talk to those responsible (indistinct) support to 2009. If they say 'no there is no money' is there a Plan B?

MUNLO: Speculative. You want us to speculate. I'm telling you our programme, what we are doing.

RAPP: The Management Committee at the Court is very active, one, in making sure that the Court is well-managed, and they are pleased with the way things are moving forward, but what's particularly important I think at this stage is that we're able to come forward now that talks about this year, which will be an expensive year because Taylor going to The Hague and the trial starting and the Appeals Judges coming. This will be a year of great activity, with these judgments being rendered and the appeals beginning and Taylor beginning. But next year will be considerably reduced and the next year will be reduced further. And I think now that we've seen the judicial schedule and how things have gone forward, it's possible to talk with much greater certainty about the budget. And we think that it will be attractive, and the Management Committee thinks it will be attractive, that we go to donors to say 'it's not going on forever. It's going to be this month this year, this much next year, and this much the last year, and then the mission will be accomplished. And so far there's contributions that have arrived – the Secretary-General wrote to Member States in November asking for contributions. Contributions have been received in the last two months. The United States has a new control of its Congress. We want to deal with the new leaders in the Congress, and with the Administration. We're looking for substantial support from the United States in the coming year. And frankly from what I know about of the situation and our contacts diplomatically, the support is out there and it's important I think the fact we're going to be able to tell them now specifically what's been done and what's likely in the future, I think we should have good success. But it will take continued efforts, because as you know this Court relies on voluntary contributions unlike the court that I just came from. The court that I came from assesses countries. All 191 members of the U.N. have to pay an assessed contribution or after awhile they lose their right to vote. Those other courts have that power. We don't, so it requires us to go out and in the last four years it's been possible to do that, and now as we come to the end – and particularly with the Taylor trial and the world's interest in the Taylor trial – we believe that support will be forthcoming, provided we show our plan, and we have it.

Q: (Indistinct)

RAPP: Right. Obviously this is a Court with a smaller workload. There are fewer cases here, but these are significant cases. Other courts have chosen to, for instance at the ICTY they have many lower-level individuals, people that have been guards in prison camps that have committed serious crimes. In the case of the ICTR, while I was there we dealt with twelve government ministers including a Prime Minister and a lot of senior people, but there were also some junior people. Here, the focus is on the people bearing the greatest responsibility. And the first Prosecutor and the Judges that were confirming those indictments made those decisions, and we're proceeding with those cases.

Q: (Christo Johnson, Reuters) Yes, this is my last question. I don't know whether you are speculating that this Court will end as you are winding up in 2009.

RAPP: Obviously everything in a judicial system depends upon the Judges, and the facts and the trials. A trial, a court, is not a factory. We have a plan, and it's realistic, and it's supported by President King and the Registrar, and the Prosecutor, and the Court, and the Judges and the Principal Defender are working together, so I'm confident that we can come close to meeting these timelines.

Q: (Christo Johnson, Reuters) (Indistinct) but there is still a wanted individual (indistinct, traffic noise) Johnny Paul Koroma.

RAPP: No. And in the reports that we made to the Management Committee, both from the President and from the Prosecutor, we've indicated that that's a case that needs to be dealt with. The Investigative Section – and I've been speaking to our investigators – are continuing their efforts to locate him or determine definitively that he's died, and we're going to continue to do that. Obviously it's a high priority now to get that matter resolved so that we've got time to get that case into court. But it's still there, and obviously if we end up finishing up without that case, then we're going to have to look at other mechanisms. At the Rwanda tribunal and the Yugoslavia tribunal, what's happened is that cases have been referred back to national authorities for prosecution, and the evidence supplied the national authorities both in the region and outside the region. And that can happen whether the person has been arrested or not arrested. So if we get to the end of the day, if we haven't concluded that matter and determined whether he's alive or dead, we're going to have to make sure there's some disposition here at the Court which indicates that if he's found he will be tried by a competent court. That's one of the things that we will have to finish up before we conclude our business – the same for the Yugoslavia and the Rwanda tribunals.

Q: What's your own mission as the new Prosecutor? Because when the former Prosecutor was here, his own mission was to get hold of Taylor (indistinct)

RAPP: My own mission is to present the evidence and the strongest possible case against Taylor, to make sure that the story is told so that the Judges understand his level of criminal responsibility and that we support the amended indictment in all of its particulars. But we do it in a manner that's efficient, that doesn't take as long as Milosevic case did at The Hague, that shows how this process can be done right and effectively. This Court has in many ways set the standard, and has done many things better than the much more expensive institutions that were supported like the ICTR and the ICTY. For one thing, other than the Taylor trial itself, it's been in-country, much more accessible to the people of the country than the case of the ICTY, Yugoslavia tribunal which is 1,500 kilometres away in The Hague, or the Rwanda tribunal which is 800 kilometres away from Rwanda in Arusha, Tanzania. And trials here have been expeditious. The people who allegedly bore the greatest responsibility were tried, and I think with the Taylor trial, which will be conducted as I've said with great transparency for the people of Sierra Leone, it will also be a case that will gain great attention internationally because of its location at The Hague, and that there will be a greater attention to it in all the world than trials we had for instance in Arusha, or other trials here in Sierra Leone. And I think it will tell the people of the world about the suffering the people of Sierra Leone experienced, and the people of the region. And I think that will be positive for an understanding of the challenges of the society. And I also think it'll be good for international justice to see how things can be done through a court that is a cooperative venture, both the international community and the affected nation. So that's what I want to see accomplished. That's of course mainly about Taylor, but of course we have these other cases involving nine individuals, and we want to make sure that those are finished properly, that if individuals are convicted that those convictions are upheld on appeal, if there are decisions by the Trial Chamber that should be challenged on a legal basis on appeal that those appeals are properly lodged by the Prosecutor, and that justice is done in each of those cases right down to the end, and that whatever happens in those cases is communicated to the people of Sierra Leone and the people of the region that were affected by the alleged acts of these men. So those are my goals.

Q: (Joseph Turay, Trumpet) Are we expecting more indictments?

RAPP: The answer is, not at this time. I would think it unlikely that there would be further indictments given the stage we are in in the Completion Strategy. A Prosecutor never says 'never' – but unlikely.

Q: (Joseph Turay, Trumpet) Mr. Munlo, now that we are reaching (indistinct) in the CDF and AFRC cases, have any arrangements been made as to whether they are going to be jailed if for any reason they are found guilty?

MUNLO: I cannot answer the question as to where they are going to be jailed because my Judges have not made their decision. And me as a Registrar, and also a lawyer who has practiced for some time, believing the principle that they are presumed innocent until the decision comes. And even when the decision comes, it's not final. They can appeal against that decision to another court to come up. So I'm not going to answer that question.

Q: In one recent publication – I think it was on AllAfrica.com, Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, the President of Liberia who was giving all her support to the Court here to get Mr. Taylor, is now saying that government has no plan of trying Mr. Taylor. What does that mean for your witnesses who are presumed to be coming from Liberia?

RAPP: We expect a number of witness to come from Liberia and we are working with witnesses who've agreed to come from Liberia, and we expect cooperation from the Government of Liberia and believe that that cooperation is there. I think the President of Liberia's comments related to whether Charles Taylor would face a separate trial for crimes committed specifically in Liberia as opposed to the crimes affecting Sierra Leone that fall within the Court's jurisdiction. Of course we're limited to a temporal jurisdiction between 1996 and 2002. Liberia could deal with other things. But if she was correctly quoted, it was that given our trial, and given the fact that these acts were related, that if justice is done in our trial, that's sufficient in the Taylor case and doesn't call for a further trial in Liberia. That's a question for that State. We'll be dealing with the crimes that he allegedly committed that affected Sierra Leone.

Q: (Indistinct)

RAPP: Whether Liberia prosecutes or not doesn't affect where the witnesses will come for our case. And understand, we're committed as well in our Outreach to communicate what's happening in this case to Liberia, because this war was a regional war and Liberians suffered.

Thank you very much.