

SPECIAL COURT FOR SIERRA LEONE
PRESS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

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 of:**

Tuesday, 20 July 2005

The press clips are produced Monday to Friday.
If you are aware of omissions or have any comments or suggestions please contact
Mariama Yilla
Ext 7217

At Special Court **AFRC Indictees Wives Appear Today**

By Joseph Turay

Margaret Tomba Brima, Anifa Kamara, Neneh Bana Jalloh, all wives of the three AFRC indictes will today appear before George Pierre Boutet's

Court No. 1 to answer to

charges of Contempt of Court. According to court sources,

the three were charged
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From front page

with Contempt of Court together with an investigator Brima Samoura and a friend of one of the women, Esther Kamara.

The source described today's proceedings as a "status conference," which means both the prosecution and the defence team will be discussing when and how to begin

the trials and perhaps whether both the prosecution and the defence team will have to call witnesses and then schedule a date when the trials will commence.

It would be recalled that all five accused persons were accused of disclosing the identity of a witness of the court who was on his way back home.

Exclusive
20 July 2005

'SLA's in Liberia were happy about the overthrow'- witness discloses

By Betty Milton

Giving his evidence before the trial judges of the Special Court, prosecution witness TFI-045 said that the members of the Sierra Leone Army (SLA) in Liberia were happy about the overthrow of the legitimate Government of President Tejan Kabbah. In his testimony, the witness

maintained that the troops were there for the peacekeeping mission in Liberia. After the announcement on radio that the ARFC had overthrown the government of Tejan Kabbah, they went to Monrovia to confirm with the troops there and also to try and contact Sam

Bockarie alias Mosquito who by then was in Freetown. Upon their arrival the witness said, they met an adjutant of the Sierra Leone contingent who informed them that they the ARFC had overthrown the government. The witness and the Commander with
Contd. Page 2

From Front Page
whom he was working with were taken to the communication room where the Commander spoke with Mosquito who gave them orders that the commander should move to Freetown immediately as Foday Sankoh has been appointed as the second man to Johnny Paul Koroma. The reason why commander B should come to Freetown was to form a delegation and to review the Yamoussoukro peace accord. The 37 year-old witness disclosed "We then took a vehicle which

left Monrovia to Buedu and then we walked on foot to Daru and then to Kenema where we met Mosquito at NIC building where he was residing. During a meeting Mosquito briefed Commander B about the overthrow and referred to the AFRC soldiers as their 'brothers'. He said that Foday Sankoh's appointment stands though he was under arrest in Nigeria. He then gave a vehicle to Commander B to take him to Freetown." The witness explained that he was with Mosquito for three weeks and was later sent to

Tonga where he was engaged in mining. In Tonga, there were AFRC fighters, and some faction of the RUF. "The civilians were forced to mine for the troops. Committees were formed to search for civilians so that they could not escape from the town and they were sent to mine for the troops." TFI-045 stated that he was with the RUF from 1991 until 2000 after he was captured in his village in Mawama in the Pujehun District and was taken to Gigei where he was trained together with some men from Liberia who were referred to as Vanguard.

Awoko
20 July 2005

Hinga Norman line up 200 defence witnesses

Defence team for Chief Sam Hinga Norman say it shall be presenting about 200 witnesses when it opens its case in September.

Many of those that will be testifying were members of the RUF, the government's main rebel force, which is now the prosecution's main

alleged the accused persons committed crimes for which they are now being tried, and a few high-profile personalities associated with the CDF during the struggle to restore democracy. The prosecution closed its case last Thursday. "Our Lordships, the Prosecution will at this stage close its case."

With the words, prosecution attorney Mohamed Bangura announced the end of the prosecution case in the first of three ongoing trials at the Special Court. The trial of Sam Hinga Norman, Moinina Fofana and Aided Kondewa, the CDF accused, began on 3 June 2004. During five trial sessions which spanned just over a year, 75

prosecution witnesses, three of them expert witnesses, gave testimony in the case. Lawyers will now prepare to present the case for the defence in proceedings, which are expected to last into next year.

The three accused each face an 8-count indictment alleging war crimes, crimes against humanity and other serious violations of international humanitarian law. Specific charges include unlawful killings, looting and burning, terrorizing the civilian population, and the use of child soldiers.

Meanwhile, two other cases are continuing at the Special Court. In the case of the RUF accused (Issa Sesay, Morris Kalloni and Augustine Gbao), 39 witnesses have given evidence. That trial began on 5 July 2004.

In the case of the AFRC accused (Alex Tamba Brima, Brima Bazzy Kamara and Santigie Borbor Kanor), which began in March this year, 41 witnesses have testified so far.

Independent Observer
20 July 2005

Sama Banya okays Norman's candidacy

Story: Abdul Karim Koroma

Sierra Leone Peoples Party (SLPP) Chairman, Dr. Sama Banya Tuesday intimated Concord Times that Special Court judge and erstwhile Civil Defense Force (CDF) Coordinator, Chief Sam Hinga Norman is eligible to

contest the leadership of the SLPP.

Banya was responding to questions posed by Concord Times verifying recent reports on the CUDORIO web that it was likely that Chief Sam Hinga Norman would contest the SLPP leadership and presidency.

Dr. Banya explained that there is no clause in the constitution that would impede Norman from contesting the leadership of the SLPP stating that the only person disqualified from contesting is a "convict".

Concord Times 3

"I can't comment on the fact that Norman is trying to run for the leadership of the SLPP, that decision is with the members of the party," Dr. Banya said and added that he is yet to receive any letter or advice from Norman about his intention to contest for the party.

He said that he has not received any letter from Norman about his intention to contest for the party.

He said that it is not a precondition for Norman to run for the party before he can contest for the leadership of the party.

Special Court Spokesman Peter Anderson-Tuerk told Concord Times that the court is not a precondition for Norman to run for the party before he can contest for the leadership of the party.

He said that the court is not going to take a political stance on Norman's issue.

"We are here to provide justice and not for politics. We are not going to interfere in the politics of this country," he says.

He said that the court is not going to take a political stance on Norman's issue.

Concord Times
20 July 2005



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Samforay confirms COCORIOKO 's
big scoop

HINGA NORMAN SUPPORTERS IN EUPHORIC MOOD OVER PRESIDENCY BID

Tuesday July 19 , 2005

COCORIOKO added another feather to its cap today as our spectacular scoop last week on the Hinga Norman bid for the SLPP leadership and the Presidency of the nation was confirmed by no less a person than the Spokesman of the Civil Defence Force (CDF), Rev. Alfred Samforay.

Rev.Samforay intimated today that the Exploratory committee of the Hinga Norman bid was at work tying up loose ends. Since our which was provided to us by an SLPP insider, our telephones had been ringing off the hook v Sierra Leoneans calling to find out whether the report was a hoax or reality , given the fact th Norman was on trial at the Special Court .

Supporters of Chief Norman, who had gone into euphoria after the report had had to endure a anxious week awaiting confirmation. The letter published below , written by SamForay , actu addressed to Liberian-cum- Sierra Leonean journalist , Mr. Joe S. Kappia , who had probably written TEGLOMA , using the CONCORD TIMES article that acknowledged us as source, confirmation of the story, will put their hearts to rest.

Mr. Kappia,

Thanks for your posting. The fire that Cocorioko has ignited is indeed taking on a life of itse are fully aware that there has been dancing and jubilation across the country. Mr. Norman's h being invaded by an endless array of visitors and speculators since the Cocorioko report reac Freetown. The court and the party are on notice and have been since last Friday. The ball is i court.

We are not by any means ignoring Rev. Kanu and his readers. The exploratory committee is work tying up some lose ends: Giving to Caesar what is Caesar's and unto God what is God's get my drift. As we say in Lugbu: *Nja neh neh loi mia; mbii lemui njei bu loh.* (In the dance , water fly, the drummer remains below the surface).



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I know you have heard this before, but please indulge us another 48 hours. And as they say in Jamaica (or Trinidad): Mark my word; next time you hear from us on this matter, we'll be ju in the cocoa party - or something to that effect.

Kind Regards,
A. SamForay,
The Committee to Elect Hinga Norman

-----Original Message-----

From: Jkappia@aol.com
To: tegloma@yahooogroups.com
Sent: Mon, 18 Jul 2005 18:32:51 EDT
Subject: [Tegloma Federation] Hinga Norman to Contest SLPP Leadership & Presidency

Hinga Norman to Contest SLPP Leadership And Presidency

Concord Times (Freetown)

NEWS

July 18, 2005

Posted to the web July 18, 2005

Freetown

The Sierra Leone political scene will be set ablaze with disbelief within the next week or so a rather surprising contender for the SLPP leadership and the Sierra Leone Presidency will be announced. A usually reliable SLPP insider recently put COCORIOKO in notice of the onco stunner that War Crimes indictee Hinga Norman will soon be entered as one of the candidate national throne.

Within the next 48 hours, the SLPP and the Registrar of the Special Court will receive notific the Hinga Norman candidacy, according to the insider.

Calls made by COCORIOKO to the Spokesman of the Civil Defense Force (CDF), Rev. Alfi Samforay, for clarification, have yet to be returned. But the insider spoke with confidence and insisted many times to COCORIOKO that he was not pulling anybody's legs.

Credit: COCORIOKO

YAHOO! GROUPS LINKS

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SPECIAL COURT WITNESS THREATENED, IN HOT SOUP AND RUF INDICTEES BOYCOT TRIAL

By Tamba Borbor in Freetown

Wednesday May 4, 2005





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Special Court.

COURT HEARS ABOUT REBEL ATTACKS ORDERED BY ALEX BRIMA (GULLIT)

Tuesday July 19, 2005

Tamba Borbor reports from Freetown

Prosecution witness, TF1-033 has disclosed that after the AFRC Forces had attacked Mange Bureh, Saj Musa joined up with 500 armed fighters and about 500 civilians who confirmed that they were families of the junta members. The witness, who was testifying in English, said that accused Alex Tamba Brima, also known as Gullit ordered Salefu Mansaray alias Tito' and Arthur to launch an attack on the ECOMOG Forces and the loyal men of the Sierra Leone Army that were based in Gbendembu Town in order for them to obtain arms and ammunition and to kill the civilians they would meet there. This mission, the witness said, "was successful as Tito returned with some arms and reported to Gullit the death of Arthur and some 25 SLAs and the killing of 20 civilians." Gullit then commended Tito for his job well done but regretted the death of Arthur.

The witness went on to explain that it was after this attack that 05' came from Mongoh Bendugu with 400 AFRC fighters and 500 abductees, as he wanted to use the Forces to capture Freetown. In September 1998 he recalled, Gullit ordered about 500 fighters under the command of Abdul Sesay to attack Mange Bureh to obtain more arms and ammunition, as the area was also an ECOMOG base. The witness further stated, " 70 civilians were killed during this operation; the Town was set down and the fighters also returned with two Prisoners Of War (POW). It was during this operation that Mark Fish' died.

In October 1998, Saj Musa also came from Mongoh Bendugu to join the Forces with Gbere Masmante with 500 armed AFRC fighters and 400 civilians who confirmed that they are family members of the AFRC from Freetown. Saj also came with an Italian Catholic Priest, Reverend Father Mario who together with the two POWs were intended for use as a bargaining chip for the peace talks." When Saj Musa came, the witness narrated, Gullit wanted to even hand over power to him as he reorganizes Saj as his boss but the latter denied. Saj according to TF1-033 told the Forces that they should stop the killing and raping of innocent civilians.

The two Commanders, the witness stated, started to do things in common. In November he noted, the forces left Gbere Masmante for Mange Bureh where

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was heavy fighting between the ECOMOG Forces and AFRC fighters. "As the AFRC fighters overpowered the ECOMOG troops, 400 civilians were killed and the town was partly burnt down," the Prosecution witness further explained.

In Melekuray he informed, they were attacked by the CDF fighters, which resulted in the death of 30 CDF personnel and 6 AFRC fighters. "Saj and Gullit again ordered 05', Basky and Papa 17 to attack Lunsar town as there was a large deployment of ECOMOG troops there. On their return, they came with some ammunition and military outfits. They reported the killing of 40 civilians."

Continuing, TF1-033 further went on to say, "the AFRC troops then went to Madigbea close to Masiaka where Saj and Gullit ordered the Forces to attack Masiaka as there was also a large deployment of ECOMOG troops. The troop about 500 in number was under the command of Papa 17, Junior Lion and Ba was during this operation that Papa 17 was killed."

Meanwhile, Dr. Christopher Staker has been appointed as Deputy Prosecutor Special Court for Sierra Leone. He succeeds Desmond de Silva QC who was recently appointed as Chief Prosecutor by the United Nations Secretary-General in consultation with the Government of Sierra Leone. Dr. Staker was Counsel for a number of prominent cases before the High Court in Australia and other Australian Courts among other appointments he held. He will take up his post on 15th June 2005.



Editor : Rev. Wilfred Leeroy Kabs-Kanu , Esq.

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UNMIL Public Information Office Media Summary 19 July 2005

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

Local Media – Newspapers

National Security Source Claims Terrorists Entered Liberia

(The News)

- A National security source speaking on the basis of anonymity said that three Lebanese men, suspected to be members of the radical Islamic group Hezbollah, had unknowingly entered Liberia via the Sierra Leone-Liberia borders. The source said that the three men had ties with Charles Taylor, the former Liberian head of state and had visited Liberia during his regime.

Local Media – Radio Veritas

(News monitored yesterday at 21:45 and today at 06:45)

Transitional Government to Hold Ministerial Workshop

- The Chairman of the National Transitional Government of Liberia Charles Gyude Bryant has directed that all ministers and heads of government agencies should attend a one-day ministerial working session at the Governance Reform Commission (GRC) tomorrow (Wednesday).
- According to an Executive Mansion release Chairman Bryant said the directive was issued in view of the importance government attaches to government functionaries' personal contribution to finalizing the mandates, functions and structures of existing ministries and central management agencies.

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 and would like further information on the content of the summaries, please contact Ms. Kadiatu Konteh at kontehk@un.org.

UK soldiers face war crimes trial

Three British soldiers are facing war crimes charges as well as criminal charges in connection with the death of a detainee in Iraq in September 2003.

The war crimes will be tried by British courts martial, not at The Hague.

One soldier faces manslaughter charges and two others abuse charges after an operation in which the Iraqi died. Four other soldiers face other charges.

In a separate case, four soldiers face charges after it was alleged an Iraqi drowned in a canal after being beaten.

One of the 11 men charged is a colonel, the most senior officer to be charged with an offence during the military action in Iraq.

CHARGES

Cpl Donald Payne - manslaughter, inhuman treatment of persons
L/Cpl Wayne Crowcroft - inhuman treatment of persons
Private Darren Fallon - inhuman treatment of persons
Sgt Kelvin Stacey - actual bodily harm, alternatively assault
Warrant Officer Mark Davies - neglecting to perform a duty
Maj Michael Peebles - negligently performing a duty
Col Jorge Mendonca - negligently performing a duty
Sgt Carle Selman - manslaughter
Gdsm Martin McGing - manslaughter
Gdsm Joseph McCleary - manslaughter
Unnamed lance corporal - manslaughter

The charges faced by three of the men - of "inhuman treatment of persons" - were brought under the International Criminal Court Act 2001 and will be tried as war crimes.

The soldiers involved are from the Queen's Lancashire Regiment.

Former senior officer Maj Gen Patrick Cordingley told BBC News that the use of the term "war crimes" would change how seriously the charges were viewed.

"The perception as far as the British public is concerned will have changed. The very emotive words they are going to read in their newspapers... is going to cause people to think what on earth is going on here," he told BBC Radio 4's Today programme.

Human rights lawyer Geoffrey Robertson pointed out that mistreatment and killing of prisoners had effectively been a war crime in Britain for more than 400 years.

The charges were announced by the Attorney General, Lord Goldsmith, in the House of Lords on Tuesday evening.

In the first case, the soldiers are alleged to have committed a number of offences against a group of detainees arrested following a planned operation.

Anyone accused is innocent until proved guilty and it is for the courts martial to consider the evidence in any case and reach a verdict

John Reid
Defence Secretary

One of the detainees, Baha Da' oud Salim Mousa, a Basra hotel receptionist, was allegedly killed by one of those charged, Corporal Donald Payne, 34, of the Queen's Lancashire Regiment.

Corp Payne is also alleged to have mistreated others and faces charges of manslaughter, inhuman treatment of persons and perverting the course of justice.

Two other members of the regiment, Lance Corporal Wayne Crowcroft, 21, and Private Darren Fallon, 22, also face charges of inhuman treatment of persons.

A fourth serviceman, Sergeant Kelvin Stacey, 28, also of the Queen's Lancashire Regiment, is alleged to have assaulted a detainee and faces a charge of assault causing actual bodily harm, or alternatively common assault.

Warrant Officer Mark Davies, 36, of the Intelligence Corps, is charged with neglecting to perform a duty.

Two more senior officers - Major Michael Peebles, 34, of the Intelligence Corps, and Colonel Jorge Mendonca, 41, lately of the Queen's Lancashire Regiment - are charged with negligently performing their duties, contrary to the Army Act 1955.

Colonel charge

BBC diplomatic correspondent Paul Adams said the war crimes label was "something of a technicality" as those charges had existed in normal British military law prior to the introduction of the act in 2001.

He said: "No one's going to the Hague, no one's to be tried in ways that different to how British soldiers have been tried in the past."

He said the most "disturbing" factor in the case from the Ministry of Defence point of view was the fact the colonel of the regiment, Col Jorge Mendonca was facing charges - the most senior soldier charged over alleged misbehaviour by British troops in Iraq.

The second case relates to the death of Iraqi civilian Ahmed Jabber Kareem, who was detained in Basra as part of a group of four suspected looters on 8 May 2003.

The men were allegedly punched and kicked before being forced into a canal, where Mr Kareem drowned.

Four British soldiers are facing courts martial accused of his manslaughter.

They are: Sgt Carle Selman, 38, then of the Coldstream Guards, now serving with the Scots Guards; Guardsman Martin McGing, 21, of the Irish Guards, Guardsman Joseph McCleary, 23, of the Irish Guards; and a 21-year-old lance corporal, also of the Irish Guards, who has not yet been named.

Defence Secretary John Reid said in a statement that allegations against British servicemen should be investigated but that the men were innocent until proven guilty.

