

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



MONBATT 9 Medal Parade was held at the Court on Friday.  
See more in today's *'Special Court Supplement'*.

## **PRESS CLIPPINGS**

**Enclosed are clippings of local and international press on the Special Court and related issues obtained by the Outreach and Public Affairs Office**

**as at:**

Monday, 21 June 2010

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

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Premier News  
Monday, 21 June 2010

# Charles Taylor's Trial

## Witness Exposes ECOMOG's Double Game

**W**est African peacekeepers sold diesel to Sierra Leonean rebel forces as they prepared to launch an attack on their country from Liberia in the early 1990s, a defense witness for former Liberian president, Charles Taylor, told the Special Court for Sierra Leone on Thursday.

Isatu Kallon, a Sierra Leonean woman who was based in Liberia when Revolutionary United Front (RUF) forces were preparing to invade Sierra Leone in 1991, explained how Economic Community of West African States Monitoring Group (ECOMOG) peacekeepers did business in Liberia. Mrs. Kallon said she bought a barrel of diesel on behalf of RUF rebel leader, Foday Sankoh, from ECOMOG forces in exchange for palm oil. "The people that you did business with, who were those people?" asked Mr. Taylor's defense counsel, Morris Anyah. "ECOMOG," the witness said. "There were boats there, in the river, but during the war, all those boats were under ECOMOG."

"But when you wanted to do business with them, you'll take a white piece of cloth and wave it, then they would know that you wanted to do business and they will come," she explained.

"Are you telling the court that ECOMOG was engaged in business, commercial activities in Liberia?" Mr. Anyah asked again.

"Yes, we were doing business with them," the witness said. Asked whether she had "to pay money for the diesel when you bought it," the witness said "I did not pay money, I sent palm oil."

When asked to tell the court what she did with the diesel: "I gave it to Pa Foday Sankoh." Prosecutors have alleged that Charles Taylor was the main source of support for RUF rebels. It is alleged that Mr. Taylor provided support for the rebels while they prepared to invade Sierra Leone in 1991 and that such support continued during the West African country's 11 year conflict. Mr. Taylor has denied these allegations and, like some of his witnesses, the former Liberian president has accused ECOMOG peacekeepers of being involved in trade of arms and other materials with rebel factions in the West African sub-region.

Today, Mrs. Kallon again spent much of her testimony outlining the support she



provided to the RUF forces while they were training in Liberia. The witness also told the court today that Mr. Sankoh had asked her to start up trade fairs in RUF-controlled territory in Sierra Leone after the group's invasion of the country. These trade fairs were successful, she added. Mrs. Kallon's testimony continues.

## LOCAL NEWS

By Alpha Sesay

West African peacekeepers sold diesel supplies to Sierra Leonean rebel forces as they prepared to launch an attack on their country from Liberia in the early 1990s, a defense witness for former Liberian president, Charles Taylor, has told the Special Court for Sierra Leone.

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# Peacekeepers accused of selling diesel to rebels

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**United Nations**      **Nations Unies**

United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL)

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**UNMIL Public Information Office Media Summary**  
**18 June 2010**

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

**Local News on Liberian issues**

**President Sirleaf Doubtful of Liberia Meeting MDGs Deadline in 2015**

[Heritage, The Analyst]

- President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf says although Liberia may not meet the deadline set for achieving the Millennium Development Goals in 2015, she is grateful to the World Bank and its partners for positively helping to alleviate poverty on the African continent.
- President Sirleaf said she is particularly thankful to the World Bank for helping to tackle poverty in Liberia through the rehabilitation of roads, schools, health facilities and support to government's poverty reduction strategy.
- According to the Executive Mansion, the President made the remarks Wednesday in Bamako, Mali at a meeting convened to mobilize resources to replenish funding of the International Development Association (IDA) of the World Bank.
- The meeting brought together leaders of Mali, Senegal and Liberia.
- The Liberian leader hoped that action emerging from the replenishment meeting would be robust to ensure that development programmes earmarked under the IDA remain on track.
- She added that Liberia is greatly depending on the World Bank to build a strong economic foundation.
- President Sirleaf and delegation returned home Wednesday night.

**President Sirleaf Honors Outgoing Nigerian Diplomat**

[The Analyst]

- President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf has bestowed one of Liberia's highest honors on outgoing Nigerian Ambassador Ebenezer Ayodele Adigun.
- Ambassador Adigun was admitted into the Humane Order of African Redemption with the grade of Knight Grand Commander.
- Bestowing the honors President Sirleaf commended the works of the Nigerian envoy since he assumed responsibilities in Liberia.
- The President said the presence of the outgoing Nigerian diplomat has helped to reinforce the relations between the two countries.
- The Liberian leader called on Ambassador Adigun to always remember Liberia describing his achievements as dynamic.
- Responding, the outgoing Nigerian ambassador thanked President Sirleaf for the honor, which he said makes him feel like a Liberian.
- He described his tenure as successful citing the coming of Nigerian medical doctors, professors and banks to revamp the Liberian economy.
- Ambassador Adigun praised Liberia for the achievement made in the reconstruction agenda of the country, particularly in the area of education, youth empowerment, and good governance.

**Government Rejects US Pressure Comments on Corruption Fight**

[Liberia Journal]

- Government has reacted to comments that it is under pressure from the US government to fight corruption.

- Deputy Information Minister Norris Tweah told a news conference the report is far from the truth and there was no pressure on government about corruption.
- Deputy Minister Tweah said the meeting between Presidents Ellen Johnson Sirleaf and Barack Obama discussed nothing about the issue of corruption.
- The Deputy Information Minister however said that President Sirleaf only shared with US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton efforts being made by Liberia on the fight against corruption.
- The head of USAID Mission in Liberia, Ms. Pamela White last week said the US government has called on President Sirleaf to pay tremendous amount of attention to fighting corruption because it was on everybody's tongue and mind.
- The call according to Ms. White was contained in two key messages given President Sirleaf at the close of her recent historic visit with President Obama.
- Meanwhile, Deputy Information Minister for Public Affairs Jerolimick Piah says Ms. White was not the official spokesperson of the US government and no statement of such has come from Washington.

### **GAC Clarifies Finance Ministry US\$200k Claim**

[Heritage, Parrot, Parrot, New Vision]

- The General Auditing Commission (GAC) said at no time did the Finance Ministry give US\$200,000 of the US\$500,000 exclusively provided by the National Legislature during the fiscal period 2009/2010.
- A GAC release noted that the amount of US\$200,000 was provided to it for only extra cost associated with the HIPC completion since the HIPC deal was nearing end and the government could not let go the valuable opportunities and prospect of meeting the HIPC requirement provided by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
- According to the GAC the requirement by the two financial bodies was the basis for support by them to Liberia, mainly at the time when the country was struggling to meet the goals of the Poverty Reduction Strategy.
- The release further clarified that the US\$200,000 in question came about when the Inter-Ministerial Committee saw the need to approve it to accelerate the work of the GAC.
- The GAC refuted claims in the Finance Ministry's denial that the GAC was prioritized.
- The Commission however said it was the HIPC audit that was being prioritized since this was a major prerequisite that would qualify Liberia for the HIPC completion point.

### **NEC Commences Training for Staff**

[Heritage, The Analyst]

- The National Elections Commission (NEC) will today begin a three-day training workshop for elections magistrates and assistant elections magistrates in Monrovia.
- According to NEC, the training workshop is part of the Commission's preparation for the pending national voters' registration exercise.

### **Suspected Chinese Murderers Arraigned**

[New Democrat]

- Two Chinese men, indicted for killing a South African IT specialist here this year, appeared in court Thursday for trial.
- The South African of Indian decent was killed with his kitchen knife in his Randall Street apartment.
- Eyewitnesses said he sought to save his life when he fought his attackers, but that he was overpowered and slashed to death.

### **Star Radio** *(News monitored today at 09:00 am)*

#### **President Sirleaf Honors Outgoing Nigerian Diplomat**

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

#### **Government Rejects US Pressure Comments on Corruption Fight**

*(Also reported Truth FM, Sky FM, and ELBC)*

#### **Pro-democracy Group Wants Senate Reject Presidential Nominee**

- The Liberia Democratic Institute (LDI) has supported calls for the Senate to reject Mrs. Comfort Bedell Marshall as Development Superintendent of Montserrado County.
- The executive director of LDI said Mrs. Marshall dampened her own credibility when she attempted strangulating the fight against corruption.

- Mr. Dan Saryee recalled that the Montserrado County Development Superintendent-designate led a group of women demonstrators to the European Union Offices in Monrovia under false pretense.
- Mr. Saryee said Mrs. Marshall had called the women to protest against Auditor General John Morlu but she failed to inform them because of the motive she had.
- The LDI boss said such an individual is not credible to head an office in charge of county development funds.
- Mr. Sayee said any attempt by the Senate to confirm Mrs. Marshall would be interpreted as sanctioning people who aid and abet corruption.
- According to the pro-democracy advocate, the General Auditing Commission remains the premier whistleblower in the country and anyone undermining its work should not be rewarded with position.

### **Rights Group Expresses Concerns over Unaccounted Millions in Government**

- The National Human Rights Centre of Liberia says it is seriously alarmed by increasing media reports of millions of dollars unaccounted for in government.
- The national coordinator of the centre said these reports are worrisome and there is a need for government to address itself to them.
- Mr. Alfred Quajayydi said most of the reports have linked key government officials who are supposed to be custodians of the funds.
- According to Mr. Quajayydi the reports cannot be treated as mere speculations as they border on the fact findings of over thirty audit reports released by the General Auditing Commission.

### **NEC Commences Training for Staff**

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

### **Radio Veritas (News monitored today at 09:45 am)**

#### **President Sirleaf Doubtful of Liberia Meeting MDGs Deadline in 2015**

*(Also reported Truth FM, Sky FM, and ELBC)*

## **International Clips on West Africa**

### **Guinea**

#### **US funds training of Guinea presidential guard Associated Press**

The United States is funding a \$1 million program to train Guinea's presidential guard as the volatile West African nation gears up for its first free election in half a century. U.S. Embassy spokesman Brett Bruen said the goal was "to ensure that there is a professional, capable, and impartial presidential guard for the newly elected president of Guinea." The vote is being held June 27 amid hope the nation may finally be on the verge of escaping decades of coups and military rule. Bruen declined to give details on who is training the force during the six-month program, which began in late May, but he said they were "civilian police experts, hired and overseen by the Department of State." The training "is equivalent to that received by the U.S. Secret Service," Bruen said, and will focus on security methods, first aid, firearms training, human rights as well as the use of non-lethal force. The U.S. is not providing weapons or ammunition. "In any country, the protection of the president is one of the most important responsibilities of a government," Bruen said. "It helps to ensure that the will of the voters is not usurped by the actions of those who seek political change through force."

#### **Guinea to Hand over Suspects in Massacre of Opposition Backers Bloomberg**

Guinea's army said it will hand over anyone suspected of involvement in a massacre by the country's security forces of opposition supporters in September. Suspects "will not be protected because we are going to deliver them," Colonel Nouhou Thiam, the army's chief of staff, said on state-owned Radio Television Guineenne yesterday. Government troops massacred more than 150 protestors and injured 1,000 people calling for free and fair elections on Sept. 28 in a stadium in Conakry, the capital. A United Nations panel has concluded the killings were "crimes against humanity." The U.S. State Department has called for the perpetrators of the massacre to be "held to account." Guinea, which has been ruled by a military junta since December 2008, holds elections on June 27. The West African nation is the world's biggest exporter of bauxite, a raw material used in the production of aluminum.

### **Ivory Coast**

## **Cote d'Ivoire / UNOCI welcomes the cantonment process, says deputy spokesman African Press Organization**

UNOCI welcomes the cantonment process of ex-combatants of the Armed Forces of the Forces Nouvelles (FAFN), which started in Korhogo this week and encourages all the concerned parties to ensure that the process progresses, the deputy spokesman for the Mission, Kenneth Blackman, said during the weekly press conference which was being held in Guibéroua, 350 km from Abidjan, as part of UNOCI Days. The Mission also encourages the Ivorian parties to continue with their efforts with regard to the launching of the appeals process on the provisional electoral list, Mr. Blackman added. Responding to a question on the possibility of organizing the elections this year, the deputy spokesman said that a pre-condition for choosing a date for elections or a timetable, was the production of a definitive electoral list. Turning to a different issue, Mr. Blackman announced that an inter-community meeting was being held today in Bako, in Odienné district. UNOCI had initiated these discussions between cattle breeders and farmers in an effort to put an end to misunderstandings which had resulted in violence between the two groups during the past few months, he explained. "Dialogue is important and it should be strengthened in order to achieve tolerance, » said the deputy spokesman. He also said that another inter-community meeting had been taking place in Grand-Djourou since 14 June, with several representatives of various communities living in the locality. Mr. Blackman said that the meeting which will go on until 25 June was part of the Mission's support to efforts to promote social cohesion in Côte d'Ivoire. The meeting, organised in collaboration with the Sectoral Group for the Protection and Consolidation of Peace, unites UN agencies, international NGOs and three Ivorian ministries. It is headed by the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR).

### **Ex-rebels reflect on their future [www.news24.com](http://www.news24.com)**

Korhogo - Ivory Coast's New Forces (FN) rebels, destined for demobilisation, are uncertain of their future but many are happy to know they will become part of a new national army. The FN has ruled the north of Ivory Coast since a failed coup against President Laurent Gbagbo in 2002, but is now demobilising its troops under a 2008 peace pact which also provides for elections. In a ceremony this week at Korhogo, a large town 600km north of the economic capital Abidjan, the FN officially began gathering its rank and file into barracks. About 500 men came to the military camps at Korhogo, with a long-term objective of grouping 1 200 out of a total 5 000 scheduled to be barracked in the northern zone. In the Fansara 110 Camp, the walls have been repainted orange, white and green in the national colours, and the "volunteers for the new army" (VAN) are beginning new lives. "The rebellion is finished. From today, you're part of the Ivorian army," barked an instructor, handing out kit to recruits on their way to their dormitories. Ivorian leaders and peace mediators intend the new army to merge the loyalist pro-Gbagbo troops in the south with the FN fighters before a presidential election due this year but constantly postponed since 2005. On a parade ground where the Ivorian flag flies high on a mast, more volunteers waited their turn to discover their new quarters.

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## New York Times

Sunday, 20 June 2010

<http://www.stltoday.com/stltoday/news/stories.nsf>

### Facilities for war crime suspects draw fire

By DOREEN CARVAJAL

THE HAGUE — Beyond the brick towers of a Dutch prison just east of here is a compound where Congolese warlords, Serbian militia leaders and a former Liberian president accused of instigating murder, rape and enslavement are confined in two detention centers.

There they live in private cells stocked like college dormitories, with wooden bookcases, television sets and personal computers. There is a gym, a trainer, a spiritual room and a common kitchen where some former enemies trade recipes and dine on cevapi, or Balkan meatballs.

Three warlords are also receiving free legal aid at a monthly cost of about 35,000 euros, or \$43,000, because they are classified as indigent, though one of them has assets that include about \$619,000 in investments, \$186,000 in savings, \$371,000 in paintings and jewelry, three automobiles and four properties.

Critics mock these facilities as the Hague Hilton. But an additional benefit — travel subsidies of tens of thousands of euros for family visits from distant African countries — is inflaming the already emotional debate among donor nations about whether the entitlements at the cluster of international courts meeting here have reached their limits.

Each court was intended, in part, to provide a model of humane, civilized detention that contrasts starkly with the horrific nature of the crimes the inmates are accused of. But how much is too much?

A group that includes France, Italy and smaller states is arguing that the nations financing the courts should not be covering benefits that they do not provide in their own prisons.

"We're not treating them as equals to the rest of detainees in national prisons," said Francisco Jose Aguilar Urbina, Costa Rica's ambassador to the Netherlands. "A guy who steals a chicken to feed his family will not be paid by the states for family visits."

The visits make up a small part of the budget of the International Criminal Court, which authorized the travel subsidies and spends about \$126 million yearly for court costs, staff and investigators, along with the costs of housing and prosecuting four men. But the dispute has raised bigger concerns about costly legal processes that have dragged on and yielded no convictions and has focused attention on other benefits at the detention facilities.

William Schabas, director of the Irish Center for Human Rights in Galway, Ireland, said, "Behind this issue is a tug of war" — between the court's judges, who generally support broad prisoner rights, and many of the countries that pay the bills.

"They are wondering what they are getting for their money," Schabas said. "This is a court that has existed for seven years and hasn't finished one trial."

Diplomats from more than 100 nations gathered this month in Kampala, Uganda, to take stock of the International Criminal Court; the dispute over family travel is moving toward a resolution this autumn.

The court was created almost eight years ago as a permanent tribunal to prosecute genocide and war crimes. Its 12-cell detention center houses five prisoners: four from Congo and Charles Taylor, the deposed president of Liberia. Taylor, whose case is before a separate court, has two cells, one where he lives and one where he keeps documents.

They share the gym with 36 defendants, including the Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic, who are before a court dealing exclusively with Balkan war crimes and are housed separately. That court does not provide travel

benefits, but many of the prisoners' home nations do, albeit far more modestly than the International Criminal Court.

Defending the International Criminal Court's policy, Marc Dubuisson, its director of court services, said: "We have an obligation to show the world what is good management. Why would you want to sentence the children not to see their own parent?"

Thanks to conjugal visits, several detainees have become new fathers, including Taylor, 62, whose daughter was born in February.

The first to tap family travel funds, in 2006, were the wife and five children of Thomas Lubanga Dyilo, 49, an ex-rebel leader from Congo. He is accused of enslaving child soldiers who were forced to rape and kill. The court paid more than \$16,000 in expenses covering air fare from Kinshasa, two hotel rooms for five nights, and a daily "dignity allowance" of \$24 for adults and \$12 for children. Court officials also provided winter clothes and a baby sitter for the children during conjugal visits.

Two years later, Lubanga's old enemy, Mathieu Ngudjolo Chui, 39, sought money for visits three times a year for his wife and six children. Ngudjolo is accused of organizing a massacre in which boy soldiers hacked and burned alive about 200 people.

When the court registrar sought to curb spending by rotating visits among relatives, Ngudjolo successfully appealed, demanding "respect for the entitlement of his children to visit their father." His travel budget this year is about \$32,400.

Stephen Rapp, the U.S. ambassador at large for war crime issues, advocates alternatives such as videoconference calls, which are under consideration. While the United States has not signed the treaty that created the International Criminal Court, it is the top donor for the Special Court for Sierra Leone, where Taylor is being tried.

"We have to make sure that they are humanely treated at an international standard," Rapp said. "But whether we should go to this whole level of flying families thousands of kilometers is much more doubtful."

The International Criminal Court's supporters argue that the spending has been taken out of context. "It's not a lot of money," said Cecilia Nilsson, who heads the legal section for the Coalition for the International Criminal Court, a network of 2,500 groups. "It's part of keeping the detainees happy or, I don't know the word — managing — the detainees."

"It was blown out of proportion," she added.

The debate is reaching another threshold — over whether to pay for visits not only for the accused but those already convicted of war crimes. The Special Court for Sierra Leone is considering that for convicts serving lengthy sentences in Rwanda.

"Yes, they have committed atrocities, but is the goal to reintegrate them back into society or is the goal to cut them off from society?" asked Binta Mansaray, the court's administrative registrar.

How the detainees would react to any cost-cutting is unclear. Some of them are not fully happy with their treatment now.

Taylor has complained through his lawyer about "Eurocentric meals," and he boycotted his trial for a day after having to sit handcuffed in a vehicle outside the court for several minutes, which he considered "disrespectful."

## New Vision (Uganda)

Sunday, 20 June 2010

### Firms accuse ICC over US\$7m debt

By Ibrahim Kasita

THE International Criminal Court (ICC) has been accused of failure to pay \$6.565m for setting up its operations in Uganda, a situation that could dent its credibility.

DNA Cable and Sylcon Travel Bureau, two private sister companies, claim that the Hague-based Court was in 2007 presented with a joint claim for \$888.203 but has been “unwilling or unable to pay up to date.”

However, the amount accrued to \$6,565,588 due to interest calculated over the 42-month of non-payment at 5% per month from January 2007 to date.

“This came about from four areas of claim (including) compensation for business damages, compensation for deliberate repeated breach of contract, payment not received for goods and services consumed by the ICC and professional fees for lawyers and financial experts,” Joseph Ossiya, the firms’ managing director disclosed.

The ICC, governed by the Rome Statute, was established to help end impunity for the perpetrators of the most serious crimes of concern to the international community.

Ossiya said the Court required and depended on a lot of “guidance from these companies” to set up their operations base and systems in Kampala.” He explained that intervention from the foreign affairs ministry to resolve the matter failed.

“This process reached the decision for the ICC to provide a financial expert to immediately convene with my financial principals to establish the compensation for my companies,” Ossiya recalled.

“We were all duped by the senior legal adviser of the ICC when he agreed and promised in writing on March 28, 2007 to make payments within 30 days of confirming the extent of their liability.” Eunice Kigenyi, the then acting permanent secretary in the foreign affairs ministry, confirmed the development.

“It was agreed that ICC and DNA each point out a financial expert to scrutinise and set the interest rates on the compensation for delayed payments, rental charges for the partitions, and penalty for the breach of contract,” she said in a letter dated April 10, 2007.

“ICC pays a sum of \$92,000 and two months rent into neutral account which will only be paid out after the matter is resolved and ICC may leave the building after it has met condition (its debt obligations).” In response to Kigenyi’s letter, Phakiso Mochochoko, the ICC’s legal adviser, rejected the demands.

“It will not be possible for the ICC to make the payment of \$92,000 into a neutral account in accordance with your proposal as this would be in violation of ICC financial regulations and rules,” he pointed out.

“It is important to note that a publicly-funded organisation, the ICC is accountable to the assembly of state parties in the use of its funds and any violations of the financial regulations and rules could have serious consequences such as disciplinary action including recovery of the monies from staff member and could also result in budget cuts.”

Mochochoko stated that “without supporting evidence that payment is in respect of goods and/or services delivered/rendered, the finance section is unable to authorise payment.”

Ossiya claims his companies have suffered massive business and reputation damage “because of the egotism of the ICC.”

“Three years on and counting, it is now unquestionably imprudent to trust that the ICC retains sufficient goodwill or moral marrow to resolve this issue without external pressure,” Ossiya said.

## The Mail (Ghana)

Sunday, 20 June 2010

### **Suspects in killing of Darfur peacekeepers to appear before ICC on Thursday**

Two rebel leaders accused in the September 2007 attack that resulted in the death of 12 peacekeepers in Darfur arrived voluntarily at the International Criminal Court (ICC) today and will appear before judges on Thursday.

Abdallah Banda Abakaer Nourain (Banda) and Saleh Mohammed Jerbo Jamus (Jerbo) are charged with three counts of war crimes allegedly committed during the attack on the Haskanita camp in South Darfur state.

The appearance of the two suspects means that all the persons we wish to prosecute in connection with the Haskanita attack have now appeared before the Court," ICC Prosecutor Luis Moreno-Ocampo said in a news release. The rebel commanders will now face justice.

The attack resulted in the killing of 12 peacekeepers and the wounding of eight others serving with the African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS) a predecessor to the joint UN-African Union peacekeeping mission, known as UNAMID.

It was allegedly carried out by the troops belonging to the Sudanese Liberation Army-Unity (SLA-Unity), which had broken away from the Sudanese Liberation Movement-Army (SLA/M), under the command of Jerbo, jointly with splinter forces of the rebel Justice and Equality Movement (JEM), under the command of Banda.

Bahar Idriss Abu Garda, who commands a splinter group of the JEM, was the first person to appear voluntarily before the ICC, back in May 2009. In April of this year, the Court dismissed the charges against him in relation to the Haskanita attack, citing a lack of evidence.

Until their first appearance before The Hague-based Court tomorrow, Mr. Banda and Mr. Jerbo will stay at a confidential location, according to a news release issued by the ICC. They are ordered not to leave the premises of the Court, including that location, for the whole period of their stay in the Netherlands without the permission of the Pre-Trial Chamber.

"During the hearing tomorrow, they will be informed of the crimes which they are alleged to have committed and of their rights under the Rome Statute," the Court stated. "A confirmation hearing will be held within a reasonable time to determine whether or not there are substantial grounds to believe that they committed the crimes charged.

An estimated 300,000 people have died and another 3 million have been displaced in Darfur, where rebels have been fighting Government forces and allied Arab militiamen, known as the Janjaweed, since 2003.

Mr. Moreno-Ocampo pointed out that his office has also offered the option of a voluntary surrender to Ahmad Harun, a former national government minister of the interior, and Ali Kushayb, the alleged Janjaweed militia leader, who are both facing war crimes charges.

However, they refused to cooperate and the judges issued arrest warrants against them, he said, adding that the Government of Sudan has refused to execute the warrants.

The two men remain at large and Mr. Harun is now the Governor of South Kordofan state. Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir also faces charges before the ICC of war crimes and crimes against humanity. Last month the Court's judges referred Sudan's lack of cooperation in failing to arrest the indictees to the Security Council.

The situation in Darfur was referred to Court by the Security Council in 2005, and is one of five investigations currently before the ICC, along with Uganda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Central African Republic, and Kenya.

## Voice of America

Friday, 18 June 2010

### ICTY Prosecutor: Capture of Mladic, Hadzic 'Highest Priority'

Margaret Besheer



**Photo: AFP/Getty Images**

*A 15 Feb 1994 file photo of Bosnian Serb general Ratko Mladic*

The prosecutor of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia says his top priority is the arrest of war crimes suspects Ratko Mladic and Goran Hadzic. Serge Brammertz told the U.N. Security Council Friday that Serbian authorities have

cooperated with the court, but that efforts to find the last two fugitives of the Balkan ethnic conflict of the 1990s must be stepped up so that the court can conclude its work.

Prosecutor Brammertz said Serbian authorities have been cooperative, answering the court's requests for access to documents, archives and witnesses. They have also provided 18 notebooks containing what are believed to be the handwritten war-time notes of Ratko Mladic that were seized during a search in February.

But despite that cooperation, Brammertz said there have been few tangible results. He said the court has asked Serbian authorities to review their operational strategies to improve progress.

"We have recently asked Serbian authorities to step up search efforts by broadening their investigations, intensifying search operations and increasing their operational capacity," said Brammertz. "Decisive and intensified action by the operational services and political authorities is critical for obtaining the arrest of the two fugitives."

Ratko Mladic commanded Bosnian Serb forces during the conflict and is charged with genocide in connection with the 1995 massacre of some 8,000 men and boys at Srebrenica. He is also accused of orchestrating the siege of Bosnia-Herzegovina's capital, Sarajevo.

Earlier this week, his family filed a motion in a Serbian court to have him officially declared dead. Prosecutor Brammertz said it is the court's "strong belief" that he is in hiding in the region and still very much alive.

The Tribunal is also seeking fugitive Goran Hadzic, a Croatian Serb leader charged with a number of crimes committed in eastern Croatia, including the murder and

persecution of the Croat and non-Serb civilian population and the forcible transfer of tens of thousands of non-Serbs from across the area under his control.

Brammertz said Croatian authorities have been generally responsive to the court's requests for assistance, but that there is still the issue of missing important documents relating to the 1995 military offensive known as Operation Storm.

The prosecutor noted that next month would mark 15 years since the genocide at Srebrenica in Bosnia and Herzegovina. He said that while justice has been served in several cases, this painful chapter in recent history cannot be properly closed until all those responsible have been brought to justice.

# MONBATT 9 Medal Parade Friday, 18 June 2010



