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 Outreach and Public Affairs Office as at:

Wednesday 22-Friday 24 January, 2003

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

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Awoko

Wednesday, 22 January 2003

QUOTING HIM

Rasta Sankoh still waiting



For the very first time we see an army that wants both power and democracy, and that is genuinely seeking to ally with the people. For the first time, too, we see the musses come out in impressive numbers and reach out to the army.

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s Justice Hamilton is transfer

By Sylvester Suaray Foday Saybana Sankoh, the former RUF leader yesterday failed to appear in court, as the criminal session of the High Court is closed. The former rebel leader was to be identified by the

Detectives who served him his warrant of arrest at the Central Maximum Prison at Pademba Road. The case will however come up on the 13th February this year during the next criminal session, which will start next Monday 27th January

According to sources at the Law Officers Department, the trial would start all over again. Reasons for the fresh start of the matter, according to the source, is that any case running into another session

a special session is liable to start anew. The session closed last Friday but the official closing ceremony took place yesterday with 'Jail Delivery'. This is when

Contd. Page 2

From Front Page prison authorities give evidence as to the amount of prisoners they have in their custody at the end of every session. Our Law Officers Department source also revealed that the matter would be

Judge since Justice P O Hamilton who has been trying the former rebel leader has been transfered to the provinces. Justice take over from Justice Samuel Ademusu, who is in charge of the High taken over by a different Courts in the Southern

Province. replacement of Justice Hamilton at the Freetown High Court No.2 is not yet known. The trials of the "Westside Boys" and Hamilton is expected to Jerold Hadson Taylor that were presided over by Justice Patrick Hamilton would also start afresh with another Judge.

Awoko Wednesday, 23 January 2003

Autro Newspaper Wednesday 2000, January 2003

RUFP welcomes Human Rights Watch reports

The former Interim Leader of the RUF- Issa Sesay has described the 75 pages of Human Rights Watch's report as "extremely fair to us because this has been the first time an International Human Rights Organization has come out openly to accuse

other parties involved in horrific acts and not just the former RUF." He said that they were aware of atrocities committed by the Kamajors, ECOMOG. Government soldiers, UN peacekeepers and International Mercenaries like the Executive Outcomes, as they did not commit the horrific acts

alone. "If today the Human Rights Watch is to bring the true story to the world, we cannot deny our area of involvement," Issa Sesay added. He further went on to say that the reason they are supporting human right watch is because of the fact that Sierra Leoneans and the world had blamed them

the RUF of all the atrocities committed during the war. Issa went on, "We also know that the true picture of bad thi gs that happened during the war has started coming out. We in the RUF are certain that the true story will soon come out." He said that they are Contd. Page 2

Human Rights reports

ready to cooperate with the special court or any other human right organization to have a clear picture on our side and the part played during the ten- year war. He stressed that he wants the

world to understand that the Former RUF was a disciplined force and they did not horrify people when they were fighting in Kailahun and other places. He disclosed that they started facing indiscipline when they merged with members of the Sierra Leone Army during the AFRC regime. However, he said that, "I believe we must not hesitate to admit the truth if indeed we want to achieve the spirit of Truth and Reconciliation."

Concord Times Wednesday, 22 January 2003

Hunt for Johnny Paul:

Soldiers, ex-fighters ex-fighters arrested for the said. Commissioner Kadie Fakondo also assured that the situation was under control.

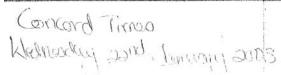
The investigation net of the police in the alleged coup plot is widening, now dragging in a reverend, ex-combatants and some soldiers.

Police yesterday disclosed trid the Acting Inspector that they have arrested 13 General Brima Acha

soldiers of the Sierra Leone Army, 6 former renegade soldiers , 6 ex-RUF fighters and 28 civilians. "We will carry out a speedy that the Action Inspector." Kamara assured He added that the investigation was carried out without any interferance from government. He assured that the police was on top of the situation. "There is no The whereabout of Johnay Paul Koroma leader of the Peace and Liberation Party and former leader of the Armed Forces Ruling Council, that unseated presiden Kabbah's government in 1997, in still unknown



Johnny Paul Koroma, a fugitive



... Gullit And others Refuse To Talk

ABU BRIMA alias Gullit and others held at the maximum prisons at Pademba Road pending investigation into the January 13's attack on the Wellington base of the Military Engineering Depot, have refused to make statements to Police without the presence of their legal representatives.

A Police source said, CID personnel recently

went to the prison in the vain attempt to obtain written statements from them, but that the detainees, led by Gullit, refused to make any statements until the presence of legal representatives. However, it could be recalled that Gullit, 555 and 18 others were last Saturday picked up by Police at the Juba residence of former junta leader and leader of the Peace and Liberation

Party, Hon Johnny Paul Keroma.

Police say Gullit and othershave been on thier list of wanted persons after they were implicated in the January 13 shooting incident.

Earlier, Police had raided Johnny Paul Koroma's house after a tip-off that the fugitives had converged at the former junta leader's resi-

For di Reople Friday 24th; January 2003

Weekend Spark

Friday, 24 January 2003

Fig. 4 WEERSHID SPAKE PRICEY 24" Jamesty 2003

The Prosecutor of the Special Court for Sierra Leone David M. Crane, has departed Freetown on diplomatic missions to solicit increased support and funding for the Court's work.

Travelling to Europe and North America. Crane will hold talks with senior government officials and human rights leaders regarding cooperation and coordination with the office of the Prosecutor.

"The world must never forget the atrocities that took place in Sierra Leone," said Crane, adding that "we must continue to speak out against impunity. I plan to tell the international community about the suffering that has taken place here".

Crane's itinerary includes a visit to the United Nations where he and the Registrar Robin Vincent, will bnef the Court's management committee on progress made to date. The Committee, which represents some of the nations that have contributed financially, provides advice and support to the Court.

A second two-week trip is scheduled for February. Additional trips are planned for March and May of this year.