

**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



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 masses come out in impressive numbers and reach out to the army.

AS SANKARA

Awoko



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s Justice Hamilton is transferred

New Judge to try Rasta Sankoh



Rasta Sankoh still waiting

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

2003. 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

without application for 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

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Rasta Sankoh

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 taken over by a different

Judge since Justice P O Hamilton who has been trying the former rebel leader has been transferred to the provinces. Justice Hamilton is expected to take over from Justice Samuel Ademus, who is in charge of the High Courts in the Southern

Province.

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

Awoko

Wednesday, 23 January 2003

Awoko Newspaper

Wednesday 23rd, January 2003

RUF 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 things 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

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Human Rights reports

From Front Page
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 arrested**



Johnny Paul Koroma, a fugitive

By Rachel Horner

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 that they have arrested 13

soldiers of the Sierra Leone Army, 6 former renegade soldiers, 6 ex-RUF fighters and 28 civilians. "We will carry out a speedy trial," the Acting Inspector General Brima Acha

Kamara assured. He added that the investigation was carried out without any interference from government. He assured that the police was on top of the situation. "There is no

need to fear" he said. Commissioner Kadie Fakopdo also assured that the situation was under control. The whereabouts of Johnny Paul Koroma leader of the Peace and Liberation Party and former leader of the Armed Forces Ruling Council, that unseated president Kabbah's government in 1997, is still unknown.

*Concord Times
Wednesday 22nd January 2003*

For Di People
Friday, 24 January 2003

...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 Koroma.

Police say Gullit and others have been on their 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 congregated at the former junta leader's residence.

For di People
Friday 24th, January 2003

Page 4 WEEKEND SPARK Friday 24th January 2003

SPECIAL COURT PROSECUTOR EMBARKS ON DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS

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 co-operation 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 brief 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.