

**SPECIAL COURT FOR SIERRA LEONE
OUTREACH 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

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The Exclusive

Thursday, 24 May 2012

A Tale of "Two Taylors": Like Father, Like son

Opinion

By Dr. Hassan B. Sisay,
Portsmouth, Ohio

Charles Taylor and Charles McArthur Emmanuel Taylor, are father and son. Both were involved in some capacity and at various times in the civil wars in Sierra Leone and Liberia. They were both prosecuted for their actions and found guilty. The younger Taylor (photo) has a long list of aliases including "Charles Taylor Jr., Charles McArthur Emmanuel," "Chuckie Taylor," and "Charles Taylor II." He was charged in a U.S court in Florida with committing numerous acts of torture, murder, conspiracy to commit torture, and horrific violations of human rights against Sierra Leoneans and Liberians during the bloody civil wars in both countries.

Born in Boston Massachusetts in 1977, Emmanuel's mother divorced Charles Taylor, and married a Mr. Roy Belfast. The couple changed Emmanuel's name to Roy Belfast Jr. Emmanuel first visited Liberia in 1992, and then returned for a second visit in 1997 following the election of his father as President. Thereafter, President Taylor designated his 20 year old son to head a newly created Anti-Terrorism Unit (ATU), which because of its diabolical atrocities and heinous crimes against civilians was nicknamed by Liberians the "Demon Forces." The dreaded ATU became the primary instrument for unleashing indescribable brutality and murder on Sierra Leonean and Liberian refugees. Emmanuel exercised authoritative control over the group. He was known as the "Chief," and seemed to have publicly confirmed his grip over the ATU, by acquiring a vehicle license plate that read "Demon."

When the Liberian town of Voinjama was attacked by rival armed forces on April 21, 1999, the ensuing chaos led to some Sierra Leoneans and Liberians seeking refuge in Monrovia, under the protection of the United Nations. While in transit, they were stopped by ATU forces at the St. Paul River Bridge Check point, and subjected to unspeakable torture that included beatings, imprisonment, and threats of mutilating their bodies and burying the pieces in the sand. Sierra Leone victims included Sulaiman Jusu, Momo Turay, Albert Williams, Foday Conteh and Abdul Cole. It should be noted that at the time of their brutalization, they had no legal representation, neither were they charged with any crimes. In the indictment "United States v. Belfast II," it is alleged that some of the above victims were stripped naked, while others were executed by Emmanuel and their "severed heads displayed atop posts at the check point."

Also treated in a cruel and savage manner by ATU forces was a Liberian farmer and furniture-maker named Rufus Kpadeh. Like the Sierra Leonean refugees, he too was attempting to escape the violence at Voinjama by travelling to Monrovia city. On his way, he was stopped and searched by ATU forces at the St. Paul River Bridge Checkpoint. In his bag, they found an identification card from the Unity Party, whose members were known opponents of Charles Taylor's administration. According to the



indictment, Emmanuel armed with a pistol, instructed an ATU official to "cut the underside of Kpadeh's genitals with a knife" and also had him placed in a "pit with other prisoners, all of whom were ordered to urinate in the stagnant water." At another time, Kpadeh was "forced to sodomize another prisoner and also to be sodomized... while Emmanuel watched and laughed."

Another victim of ATU forces was University of Monrovia student V. Bryan Dulleh, who belonged to the Madingo ethnic group (accused of being) opposed to the Charles Taylor presidency. At the direction of Emmanuel, Benjamin Yeaten head of Liberia's Special Security Service, savagely brutalized Dulleh and "ordered soldiers to put a dirty rag in his mouth, and burned him with a heated clothes iron on his arm, back, stomach, and foot." Further, Emmanuel is said to have "shocked Dulleh's neck, back, and genitals with a cattle prod," causing severe pain and suffering to his body. Based on all of the above documented acts of torture and atrocities cited in the indictment, Emmanuel was found guilty in Florida and sentenced to 97 years in prison. He appealed his case to the 11th Circuit on many grounds including the fact that the enumerated acts of atrocities were committed outside the United States. The judges rejected his appeal and affirmed his conviction and sentence in full.

His father "Daddy Taylor" was recently found guilty of 11 counts of war crimes and crimes against humanity for arming Sierra Leone rebels in exchange for "blood diamonds, and awaiting sentence on May 30." Taylor was a key supporter of the Revolutionary United Front (RUF), responsible for inflicting massive terror,

sexual abuse and dismemberment of limbs on the hapless civilian population. Thousands of Sierra Leoneans lost their lives, and property as a result of RUF attacks on cities and villages.

David Crane, former Chief Prosecutor for the UN Special court for Sierra Leone (2002-2005) described the carnage as follows: "what took place in Sierra Leone marks the limits of our language to communicate, and falls outside the realm of expression...[it's] "a tale of horror, beyond the gothic into the realm of Dante's inferno." The killings, hacking of limbs, wanton destruction of property by the RUF remains a mind-boggling occurrence.

One wonders why Charles Taylor and his son supported such a vicious group? Why were they involved in the commission of so many heinous crimes against their compatriots and neighbors in Sierra Leone? Was this just a case of power going into their heads, and a false notion that they were larger than life? Was it driven by a need to maintain their self-created image of grandiosity and dominance over fellow human beings? There are no easy answers to the above questions. Personally, I believe that the "father and son" duo possessed massive out of control egos, and were corrupted by power, and lost the ability to empathize with the sufferings of others. Even more disturbing, the duo do not seem to manifest any genuine guilt about their enormous desecration of human lives and property? Both appeared to be viciously insensitive and unfeeling about the plight of common folks. Like his son, former president Charles Taylor recently claimed that prosecution witnesses were paid and also implied that his actions were culturally permissible. Really?

Even more disturbing, the duo do not seem to manifest any genuine guilt about their enormous desecration of human lives and property? Both appeared to be viciously insensitive and unfeeling about the plight of common folks

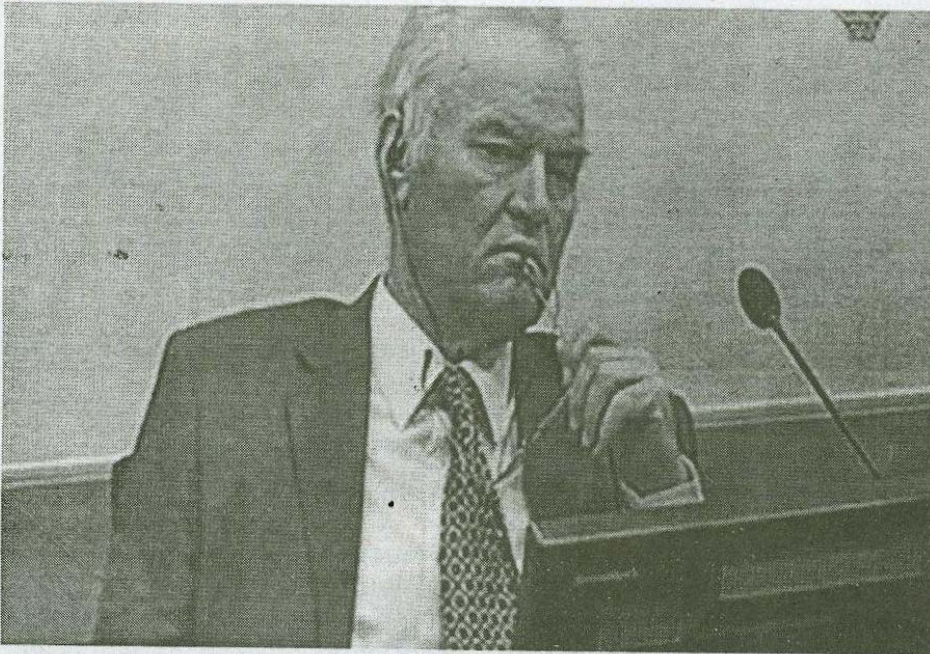
Perhaps, it will take a psychoanalyst with expertise in the "Psychology of wickedness" to adequately decipher the emotional enigma of the "TWO TAYLORS."

Meanwhile, in their recent verdict, prosecutors at the Hague convicted "Daddy Taylor" of 11 counts of war crimes including "murder, rape and conscripting child soldiers during Sierra Leone's civil war," and recommended a sentence of 80 years. The verdict has received universal praise worldwide as an important message to end impunity in public life. Former Prosecutor David Crane proclaimed "this is a bell that has been rung and clearly rings throughout the world. If you are a head of state and you are killing your own people, you could be next." To U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, Taylor's guilty judgment is "a significant milestone for international criminal justice." U.N. deputy Spokesman Eduardo del Buey, added that the verdict "sends a signal to all leaders that they are and will be held accountable for their actions."

Equally important, is the message the "Taylor verdicts" sends to aspiring politicians in both Sierra Leone and Liberia who also hold United States citizenship or resident immigrant status. The defense in Emmanuel's trial claimed that because he is an American citizen, and his crimes were committed outside of the United States, he cannot be held liable or prosecuted by U.S. authorities. The prosecution countered by using provisions of the "Extraterritorial Torture Statute" which is based on universal jurisdiction, and "makes it a crime by U.S. citizens to commit torture abroad." Among other things, the law states "whoever outside the United States commits or attempts to commit torture shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 20 years, or both, and if death results to any person from conduct prohibited by this subsection, shall be punished by death, or imprisoned for any term of years or for life." Besides, the Torture Statute is applicable regardless of whether or not the "alleged offender is present in the United States, irrespective of the nationality of the victim or alleged offender."

Further, "because Emmanuel had witnessed various acts of torture, had ordered others to commit torture, and had engaged in torturous acts that were part of a campaign to quell opposition to his father's presidency," he was assessed a higher level of aggravation by the court. In other words, "UNCLE SAM" is legally well equipped to closely monitor the actions of U.S. citizens and permanent residents abroad. To dual citizens in Africa involved in politics, and those who are about to participate in the November elections in Sierra Leone, please carefully watch your political moves and monitor the actions of your supporters. What you do, see and ignore, or allow others to do on your behalf, may come back to haunt you.

Ratko Mladic led ethnic cleansing, war crimes trial told



Former Bosnian Serb army commander Ratko Mladic intended to "ethnically cleanse" Bosnia, the opening day of his war crimes trial has heard.

Gen Mladic faces 11 counts of war crimes and crimes against humanity, including genocide, in connection with the brutal 1992-95 Bosnian war.

Prosecutors at The Hague said they would show his hand in the crimes.

He has called the accusations "monstrous" and the court has entered a not guilty plea on his behalf.

Gen Mladic is accused of orchestrating the massacre of more than 7,000 Muslim boys and men at Srebrenica in 1995.

He is also charged in connection with the 44-month siege of Sarajevo during which more than 10,000 people died.

'Criminal endeavour'

Gen Mladic, dressed in a dark grey suit, applauded and gave a thumbs-up as the judges walked in.

The charges

- " Counts 1/2: Genocide of Bosniaks and Bosnian Croats in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Srebrenica
- " Count 3: Persecutions
- " Counts 4/5/6: Extermination and murder
- " Counts 7/8: Deportation and inhumane acts
- " Counts 9/10: Terror and unlawful attacks
- " Count 11: Taking of UN hostages
- " Ratko Mladic: The charges

The prosecution opened the hearing at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) with an audio-visual presentation laying out the case against Gen Mladic.

Prosecuting counsel Dermot Groome said they would prove Gen Mladic's hand in the crimes.

"Four days ago marked two decades since Ratko Mladic became the commander of the main staff of the army of Republika Srpska - the VRS," he said.

"On that day, Mladic began his full participation in a criminal endeavour that was already in progress. On that day, he assumed the mantle of realising through military might the criminal goals of ethnically cleansing much of Bosnia. On that day he commenced his direct involvement in serious international crimes."

Mr Groome said that by the time Gen Mladic and his troops had "murdered thousands in Srebrenica" they were "well-rehearsed in the craft of murder".

He then showed judges video of the aftermath of a notorious shelling of a market in the Bosnian capital Sarajevo, in which dozens of people died.

Relatives of Srebrenica victims gathered outside the court as the trial began

Mr Groome said there was "no doubt" that Gen Mladic had controlled the shelling of Sarajevo. He had promised that the city would shake, the prosecutor said.

Mr Groome said the attacks were part of an "overarching" plan to ethnically cleanse non-Serbs from parts of Bosnia.

Gen Mladic has been awaiting trial in the same prison as his former political leader Radovan Karadzic, who was arrested in 2008 and is now about half way through his trial on similar charges to Gen Mladic.

Mr Groome said Radovan Karadzic's choice of Gen Mladic was not random but because he could help to achieve the strategic goals of Bosnian Serbs.

At one point, presiding Judge Alphons Orié told Gen Mladic to focus on the court proceedings and not take part in "inappropriate interaction" with people in the public gallery.

In the third and final session of the day, the prosecution highlighted the role of snipers in Sarajevo, showing images of a child shot dead on a street and pictures taken from sniper nests overlooking the besieged city.

The trial was later adjourned until Thursday.

During the proceedings, members of the Mothers of Srebrenica group held a vigil

MmegiOnline

Tuesday, 22 May 2012

<http://www.mmegi.bw/index.php?sid=2&aid=394&dir=2012/May/Tuesday22>

Opinion

As i see it

Michael Dingake

Charles Taylor and George W Bush - Animal Farm justice!

The global village in which we all live and sojourn, is one huge animal farm where we are all equal but some are more equal than others. We had Nazism/Hitlerism when Herr Adolf Hitler was the god of Germany worshipped by the Germans and all so-called Aryan race superior to all the non-Aryans. Hitler had as his priority and mission, liquidation of the Semitic sub-race, the Jews and to rule the whole world of sub-humans with an iron fist.

In Africa we have been ruled with an iron fist ever since written history. We were hunted down like wild animals, captured by sea pirates assisted by our so-called traditional leaders, chained and transported in ships across the oceans; many of the captives who perished during the long trans-Atlantic voyage were thrown overboard like jetsam to be devoured by sharks and other ocean carnivores. Those who survived the ordeal of the voyage were sold by auction at slave-marts where spouse was separated from spouse and child from parent and sold to the highest bidder by the auctioneer. Slavery preceded colonialism which parcelled the non-European world between European powers to oppress politically, exploit economically, subjugate culturally and discriminate socially.

Only the other day, our next door neighbour had apartheid policy which recognized only whites as South African citizens entitled to the franchise and the indigenous people disenfranchised and forced to use elevators marked 'Natives and Dogs.' Apartheid officially ended on April 27, 1994 when Nelson Mandela after spending 27 years in prison, for challenging the apartheid philosophy, became president of a free South Africa. In theory apartheid is dead, in practice it lives under many disguises: economy, religion and life style. Internationally slavery has been abolished but survives under numerous forms of subservience to the privileged of colour, money and power.

Hitlerism was defeated in the Second-World war, Jews received apologies and reparations from Germany; Hitler co-conspirators, Eichmann and others got their just deserts under the Nuremberg Charter; ironically neo-Nazism has resurfaced in Israel where the Palestinians continue to be treated as the scum of the earth, bullied and terrorised from pillar to post with the active connivance of the US superpower.

All these monstrous policies of the Animal Farm culture lie theoretically dead but practically alive in international law, international economics, international press freedom and the United Nations Charter of Human Rights. Why?

Because all these concepts are defined by the genealogies of the slave-owners, the colonial-imperialists, the scions of the Fourth Estate ideologues and the self-serving powers constituting the Security Council: The United States of America, United Kingdom, France, Peoples Republic of China and Russia who run the show.

The month of May 2012 has been pregnant with profoundly revealing events. Charles Taylor the former Liberian president was found guilty by the International Criminal Court (ICC) in the Hague for aiding and abetting rebels led by Foday Sankoh in Sierra Leone during the civil war. There were 11 counts relating

to atrocities that included murder, rape, mutilation of limbs and dealing in blood diamonds. One Naomi Campbell appeared as a prosecution witness on the blood diamonds count and looked bewildered and lost for words to be a credible witness. In his statement to court Taylor averred the prosecution witnesses were bribed:

"Witnesses were paid, coerced, and in many cases, threatened with prosecution if they did not give statements."

He is also said to have questioned why former US President George W Bush who he alleged had admitted to ordering torture, was not being brought to face a court. Taylor was found guilty on circumstantial evidence. What may interest readers in the so-called Third World, is the question Taylor put to the judges: "Is he (Bush) above the law?" As far as the crimes for which Bush has to be indicted by the ICC, the evidence would be damning eye-witness account. UN, the Geneva Convention and Human Rights organisations would jostle for first prosecution-witness in the box; the Iraqis and Afghans would jump the queue! But why then hasn't he been indicted by the ICC? Well, he is the first-worlder and we are the third-worlders. Can't you see, the animal farm?

Mercifully George W Bush, Dick Cheney his Vice President and Donald Rumsfeld Defence Secretary and their co-conspirators, lawyers who advised them the definition of 'torture' under several international conventions did not apply to them in their "war on terror" fad, were indicted, convicted and sentenced on May 12, 2012 by a five-panel Kuala Lumpur War Crimes Tribunal presided by Tan Sri Dato Lamin bin Haji Mohd Yunus Lamin. The crimes for which George W Bush and co-conspirators were charged and convicted were among others: Torture, violating customary international law, violating convention against torture 1984, violating the Geneva Convention III and IV 1949, violating the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the UN Charter.

"The Tribunal recommends to the War Crimes Commission to give the widest international publicity to this conviction and grant of reparations, as these are universal crimes for which there is a responsibility upon nations to institute prosecutions if any of these accused persons may enter their jurisdictions," said Lamin. The reader may ask, why then hasn't this been published in the media? Why have the news agencies gone quiet? The answer is: Reporting without fear or favour is but a platitude consonant with animal farm culture.

The Washington Post

Thursday, 24 May 2012

Sierra Leone: finding forgiveness in unlikely places

By SAMUEL KONKOFA KOROMA

WASHINGTON — Last month a court in The Hague found former Liberian president Charles Taylor guilty of 11 counts of war crimes and crimes against humanity for his role in fueling a 10-year, bloody conflict in Sierra Leone. The verdict capped a trial that itself had dragged on for years and had been punctuated by moments of sensationalism, such as Wikileaks revelations and the testimonies of supermodel Naomi Campbell and actress Mia Farrow.

With all of this spectacle, it can be easy to forget what the trial was really about: thousands of people like me, and the forgiveness that makes life bearable.

I'm from Sierra Leone, the country whose conflict Taylor was convicted of helping to finance. My life has taken me to Europe and to Uganda, but I've never forgotten my home: an impoverished, remote village.

My family could afford to send only one of their seven children to school, and as the oldest boy I was the lucky one. I became a teacher. Many of my students were bright and ambitious, but they struggled against the pull of poverty and hopelessness. One little boy, whom I'll call Vandie, stands out in my mind. About two decades ago, Vandie abruptly stopped going to school. When I visited his home to find out why, he tearfully admitted that other kids had been making fun of his old, beat-up pants and lack of shoes. I bought Vandie some clothes and shoes and he returned to school, still poor but proud.

Life began to unravel in 1991, when the Revolutionary United Front started its campaign to topple the government and Sierra Leone descended into war. Rebels invaded my small village in December 1998, burning it to the ground and killing hundreds. My younger sisters, my brother-in-law and my grandmother were brutally murdered right in front of me. I witnessed and was forced to do unspeakable things.

One day, a sudden diversion of bomber jets overhead saved me. I escaped to the countryside behind rebel lines, where I lived in constant terror, eating whatever I could forage. After seven months my hunger eclipsed my fear, and I fled to a village to search for food. I was captured again by rebels, interrogated, tortured and accused of being a spy. The order was given: I would be executed.

One rebel soldier, a youth with his face covered, eagerly stepped up to play the role of executioner. Child soldiers in Sierra Leone were tragically common. These boys — brainwashed, drugged and without hope — were manipulated into committing acts of terror. Countless young lives were ravaged in this way during the war.

The boy led me out of sight of the group to the execution spot under several banana trees. My heart was pounding. My mind was fixed on death. "Teacher, do you remember me?" the boy asked. "I will not kill you. You are a good man. Do you remember that you bought me shoes and pants so I could go to school?"

I watched in amazement as the young man removed the cover from his head, revealing familiar eyes and a tear-soaked face. Vandie drew a rough map with charcoal to the nearest village held by peacekeepers. That's how I crawled to safety and, eventually, returned to my family.

I found Vandie after the war and asked how I could repay him for saving my life. An orphan and a dropout, Vandie wanted to go back to school. I supported him financially and emotionally as he returned

to school and earned high school and university degrees. He now has a successful career, and we maintain a special bond.

In the ensuing years I have devoted my life to building peace in Africa's fragile post-conflict environments. Recently I worked in Karamoja, a remote expanse in northeastern Uganda where poverty and violence are endemic among warring tribal factions of cattle herders. I take great joy in bringing people together to build a common future: planting crops and trees, building dams and markets, and sometimes just talking, connecting and celebrating. I see every day that former enemies — especially young people — can forgive and move forward.

One could argue that the conviction of Charles Taylor closes an important chapter in Sierra Leone's history; some may even call it justice. But court decisions won't rebuild Sierra Leone or other countries where former perpetrators and victims live alongside each other. Rebuilding can start only with a purposeful, daily decision to forgive and forge a common future. It is possible — just ask my former student.

Samuel Konkofa Koroma has led peace-building projects in Africa for the global humanitarian agency Mercy Corps.

Lubangatrial.org (The Hague)

Wednesday, 23 May 2012

Congo-Kinshasa: Prosecutor Wants Sexual Crimes Considered in Lubanga Sentencing

By Wairagala Wakabi

The International Criminal Court (ICC) prosecutor says the sexual crimes, which were "routinely" committed by soldiers commanded by Thomas Lubanga, should be one of the factors judges should consider to hand him a "very severe joint sentence."

The fact that Mr. Lubanga was an educated person and had the powers to stop the use of child soldiers but instead encouraged their participation in armed conflict should also be among the aggravating factors, according to a sentence request prosecutor Luis Moreno-Ocampo filed on May 14, 2012.

Mr. Lubanga is the first person to be found guilty by the ICC since its founding in 2002. On March 14 this year, judges found him guilty of three war crimes of conscripting, recruiting, and using child soldiers in an armed conflict in the Ituri region of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Sentencing hearings will take place on June 13.

"Thomas Lubanga was in supreme control of the UPC/FPLC. He had every opportunity through the one year period to stop the commission of the crimes, yet he did not," noted the prosecutor, referring to the Union of Congolese Patriots (UPC) and the Patriotic Forces for the Liberation of Congo (FPLC).

"Instead he visited training camps delivering speeches and only attempted to take measures to demobilize, which were not successful, when under pressure. His pre-meditated criminal actions, undertaken with extreme brutality and malice, with full knowledge of the vulnerability of those subjected to them, merit a severe joint sentence."

The prosecutor contended that the gravity of the three crimes charged, the extent of the aggravating factors for the crimes, and the lack of mitigating factors "justify the imposition of three separate high sentences and a very severe joint sentence."

Mr. Moreno-Ocampo also submitted that the evidence of sexual violence and rape ought to be considered as an aggravating factor at sentencing. It argued that even though Mr. Lubanga was not convicted of these acts, there would be no prejudice to incorporating them for sentence. "The chamber permitted the introduction of this evidence. The defense was sufficiently on notice that these activities occurred in the context of UPC/FPLC child conscription and enlistment and use; in fact, it cross-examined witnesses on this evidence," argued the prosecution.

Moreover, the prosecutor submitted that the evidence above on sexual violence shows that the harms committed were gender-based, and should be considered an aggravating factor. He added, "The evidence reveals that sexual violence was routinely inflicted on the girl child soldiers - rape and sexual abuse were an integral part of their horrific experience at the hands of the UPC/FPLC ... female recruits were raped by their trainers and commanders, irrespective of their age. It was common practice for the UPC/FPLC high ranking officials to use young girls as domestic servants in their private residences."

Following an appeal by victims, trial judges on July 14, 2009 ruled that it was possible to add new charges to those Mr. Lubanga faced. However, on December 8, 2009, appeals judges ruled that charges of sexual slavery and cruel treatment did not have the possibility of being added to the case against Mr. Lubanga.

In their ruling, Judges Adrian Fulford (Presiding), Elizabeth Odio Benito, and René Blattmann stated that evidence demonstrated that mainly girls, were used by UPC/FPLC commanders to carry out domestic work and that girl soldiers were subjected to sexual violence and rape. Witnesses specifically referred to girls under the age of 15 who were subjected to sexual violence by UPC/FPLC commanders, the judges said. They added, however, that sexual violence did not form part of the charges against the accused, and the chamber had not made any findings of fact on the issue, particularly as to whether responsibility was to be attributed to the accused.

Article 77 of the Rome Statute spells out the possible penalties for persons convicted by the ICC. These include imprisonment not exceeding 30 years and life imprisonment in cases of "extreme gravity" and where "the individual circumstances of the convicted person" warrant. In addition to imprisonment, the court may order a fine or "a forfeiture of proceeds, property and assets derived directly or indirectly from that crime."

Article 78 provides that in determining the sentence, the court shall take into account such factors as the gravity of the crime and the individual circumstances of the convicted person. This article adds that when a person has been convicted of more than one crime, judges shall pronounce a sentence for each crime and a joint sentence specifying the total period of imprisonment.

In determining the appropriate sentence, Rule 145 of the Rules of Procedure and requires the court to consider and balance numerous other factors, including the culpability and degree of participation of the convicted person, the circumstances of the person and the crimes, the harm caused to the victims and their families, and appropriate aggravating and mitigating factors.

While Mr. Moreno-Ocampo does not mention the number of years prosecutors would like Mr. Lubanga handed, he refers to similar cases where those convicted received long jail terms. He gives the example of the sentencing of Issa Hassan Sesay, Morris Kallon, and Augustine Gbao at the Special Court for Sierra Leone, which considered the following aggravating factors in relation to the child soldier crimes: the scale and brutality, the vulnerability of victims, the number of victims, and the impact on victims and degree of suffering. For these crimes, notes the prosecutor, Sesay and Kallon were sentenced to 50 years and 35 years of imprisonment respectively. He also notes that in the Prosecutor v Charles Ghamkay Taylor, the prosecution was requesting 75 years for child soldier crimes.

The prosecutors also noted that Mr. Lubanga was "well-educated, possessing a degree in psychology that allowed him to understand the gravity of depriving children of the care of their families and their education. He was a leader of the community. These factors, coupled with his supreme authority over the UPC/FPLC, only exacerbate his criminality."

The defense has up to May 28, 2012 to make its sentencing submissions. At the public hearing on sentence, the prosecution will make its oral submissions, followed by the legal representatives of the participating victims, and finally the defense.