

**SPECIAL COURT FOR SIERRA LEONE
PRESS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE**



A fisherman mends his nets in Kent.

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 at:

Wednesday, 28 March 2007

Press clips are produced Monday through Friday.
Any omission, comment or suggestion, please contact
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Special Court for Sierra Leone
Press and Public Affairs Office

PRESS RELEASE

Freetown, Sierra Leone, 28 March 2007

Autopsy Shows Sam Hinga Norman Died of Natural Causes

An autopsy to determine the cause of death last month of Special Court indictee Sam Hinga Norman showed he died of natural causes.

According to the autopsy report, Mr. Norman “died of natural causes from a myocardial infarction”. The report was finalised this week after receipt of the results of toxicology tests.

The autopsy was conducted on March 5 by a four-member team of pathologists and medical experts led by Prof. Mendes of Senegal. One of the experts was selected by the Special Court, and one by the Government of Sierra Leone.

Former Vice President Dr. Albert Joe Demby, a medical doctor, observed the autopsy on behalf of the Norman family. Dr. Donald Harding, the Special Court’s Medical Officer, also attended as an observer.

In January, Mr. Norman was taken to Hôpital Aristide Le Dantec, a military hospital in Dakar, Senegal, for a routine medical procedure which was not available in Sierra Leone. The procedure was performed successfully on February 8. On February 22, Mr. Norman collapsed in his hospital room. Doctors tried unsuccessfully to revive him.

On February 22, former Special Court Registrar Lovemore Munlo SC, ordered an inquest to determine the cause of Mr. Norman’s death.

A separate inquiry into the circumstances surrounding his death was ordered by the President of the Special Court, Justice George Gelaga-King. That inquiry is being conducted by Justice Renate Winter of Austria.

A second indictee, Issa Hassan Sesay, also received medical treatment in Dakar on the same day. Mr. Sesay was returned to Freetown on March 1 and is in good health.

A copy of the autopsy report was sent to the Norman family. The results of the toxicology tests will now be made available to the family.

#END

Norman fights back from the grave ...

Special Court Registrar Fired!

By Theophilus S. Gbenda
We are reliably informed that the Registrar and Chief Administrative Officer of the so-called Special Court for Sierra Leone, Lovemore G. Munlo, has been sacked with immediate effect. Our investigations have revealed that the reason for the failure

of the United Nations Secretary General to renew the contract of Mr. Munlo, is not unrelated to the conduct of the court during the transfer, incarceration, surgical operation and subsequent death of Chief Hinga Norman, about a month ago. Mr. Munlo now appears to be

Continued Page 10

Norman fights back from the grave ...

From Front Page
the first of the many heads that will roll as Chief Norman continues to fight even from the grave.

"If our sources are correct, all we can say at this moment is good riddance, and we eagerly look forward to the next ones to fall including any from the SLPP government, which brought this rubbish of a court to Sierra Leone, in the first place", said a family member of the late chief. Mr. Munlo joined the Special Court on 3rd October 2005. He succeeded the court's first Registrar, Robin Vincent, who reports assert was ill-placed. Mr. Munlo, in his

capacity as Registrar of the Special Court, then, maintained throughout the period leading to the death of Chief Norman, that *the operation on Norman - carried out in a decrepit military hospital in Senegal - had been successful.*

He then regretted that Norman's death had robbed the people of Sierra Leone of justice.

We have the reason to believe that the lies perpetrated in the recent release of bogus pictures depicting the alleged hospital where Chief Hinga Norman lived and died in Dakar by the mis-information Department of the Special Court headed by the American born Peter Anderson, now a transformed Sierra

Leonean (for obvious reasons), was a deliberate ploy to swift the attention of the public and the international community from the real issues surrounding the well planned assassination of Chief Norman.

All said and done, it is evident that the death of Chief Norman had rendered the usefulness of the Special Court to the gutter, much to the disdain of the international community and the United Nations in particular. Little wonder why the Registrar, Mr. Munlo, had been given the boot.

Positive Change

Wednesday, 27 March 2007

Praise to Chief Norman

Verse one

Praise to Chief Norman, who now rests in heaven.

Jehovah anointed the hero and warrior.

Blessings and honour ever be his great name.

Nations and Kings shall Praise him.

Chorus

Hail to Chief Norman, who now rests in heaven.

Traitors and Tyrants now prosecute him in vain.

Dwelling with heavenly beings, Celestial is his resting place.

Death no longer conquers the hero.

Verse Two

Praise to his ideologies, he died a sacrificial lamb

Blessings and honour ever be his great name.

Long shall his blood, shed, a sacrificial lamb.

Ever and ever lives in the horizon of history.

Chorus

Hail to Chief Norman, who now rests in heaven.

Traitors and Tyrants now prosecute him in vain.

Dwelling with heavenly beings, Celestial is his resting place.

Death no longer conquers the hero.

Verse Three

Great is his glory and endless is his fame.

Ever, and ever, his military might

Loyal as he was, he will enter the Lord's Kingdom.

He shall join the other warriors of old.

Chorus

Hail to Chief Norman, who now rests in heaven.

Traitors and tyrants now prosecute him in vain.

Dwelling with heavenly beings, Celestial is his resting place.

Death no longer conquers the hero.

By Michael Bockarie Jr.

Standard Times

Wednesday, 28 March 2007

UNDP declare 39 chiefdoms arms free

BY EDWARD MARAH

The United Nations Development Programme in Sierra Leone (UNDP) has declared thirty-nine chiefdoms arms free through its community arms collection and development programme in collaboration with the Sierra Leone police.

The Programme, which was established in 2002 with a comprehensive approach linking security to community development was geared towards promoting conditions for stability, human security and socio-economic development through community arms collection and development, national institutional capacity building and support initiatives to strengthen the border against illicit trafficking in arms.

According to Mr. Wurie Bah of the Arms for Development Department (UNDP), the project is currently being implemented in ninety-one chiefdoms out of which thirty-nine have now been declared arms free and have been



Wurie Bah... UNDP

awarded a chiefdom arms free certificate with multi community projects in each of them.

He said since the inception of the project in 2002 they, together with the Sierra Leone Police have collected over six thousand small arms in the thirty-nine chiefdoms declared arms free and over forty-four (44) explosives (UXDS) have been cleared in the country.

He disclosed that they have also accomplished border strengthening initiatives with the office of national security, and have developed fire arms licensing database

software, created SLP fire arms licensing unit, funded two border control posts, improved the perception and physical security of communities in ninety-one chiefdoms and the drafting of the first bill for a new legislation that is now ready for submission to the cabinet.

Mr. Wurie Bah noted that the arms for development programme, when completed will promote safer community watch and help bridge the gap with Sierra Leone Police, promote community cohesion and empowerment, and strengthen democracy in the country.

He stated that they also aims at creating a sub-regional action plan to combat cross-border trafficking in small arms, strengthen capacity in the Mano River Union Secretariat to facilitate the implementation of the action plan and small arms, empower border communities to support border security personnel and support a multi-year programme intervention on cross-border security.

The Exclusive

Wednesday, 28 March 2007

“Boundary Dispute Threatens Peace...”

A high powered delegation from the Office of National Security and the Ministry of Lands are in Koidu Town to settle the boundary dispute that has threatened the peace and security between the people of Kono and Koinadugu district. The ONS coordinator Kono District Manso Mansaray, said the delegations is in Kono to look into the boundary dispute in the district. He said the whole problem emanated when people started discovering diamonds in these chiefdoms, which led to people making claims and counter claims over ownership of land which most often, does not belong them.

It was disclosed that there are fourteen (14) boundary disputes in Kono district and another one between Neya Chiefdom in

Koinadugu district and Sandor Chiefdom in Kono.

Two years ago, these disputes resulted in serious confrontation between the two chiefdoms, leading to the burning down of houses. The police in Kono had to intervene to arrest the ugly situation and a meeting was held in the northern regional office in 2004, to resolve the issue. The Director of Provincial Border Security Mr. Kelly described the whole episode as a security threat and that during their stay in Kono, they will have to visit the disputed sites in a bid to trace the 1947 edition of boundary delimitation done by the colonial masters.

Meetings were held with paramount chiefs in the district especially in Tankoro, Gebense, Fiamma Kamara and Nimikoro chiefdoms in a bid to get the facts in order to

bring the bad blood to an end.

President Alhaji Dr. Ahmad Tejan Kabbah, who is reportedly worried and concern about such development has mandated the ONS and land officials to go to the disputed areas to try and bring the impasse to an end.

Paramount Chief Fasuluku revealed that the problem between his chiefdom and Fiamma resulted to the killing of one person.

The ONS Director for Provincial Border Security pointed out that their decision is final and that nobody can challenge it as they will be using the 1947 British map.

Independent Observer
Wednesday, 28 March 2007

Freetown Lawyer Contacted To Defend Kambo Kambo In USA

A Freetown based Lawyer, John Sesay whom we were told was providing legal services at

the Special Court for Sierra Leone, is being contacted to join the defence team in the USA for Kambo

Kambo. Sesay, according to our sources, was contacted by members of the 'Free Kambo'

campaign launched recently in the USA to ensure the release of the detained former junta strongman.

He is a Human Right lawyer and the allegations that is still keeping Kambo in detention has to do with such abuses committed during his association with the erstwhile NPRC regime of Capt. Valentine Strasser.

Kambo had vehemently argued that he did nothing wrong at the time saying

that he had to resign from the regime to settle in the USA in 1994. And for 13 years now since that time he had not travelled to Sierra Leone

He was invited by the US authorities last October for an interview following his application for permanent residence but was subsequently detained.

Two attempts to release him on bail were blocked by the Department of Homeland Security.

His next court appearance is in two weeks time on April 12.

Amnesty International

Tuesday, 27 March 2007

PUBLIC STATEMENT

Sierra Leone's victims should not be forgotten simply because they have not been heard

Amnesty International welcomes the initiative taken by members of the civil society to organize a series of symposiums over the last three days throughout Sierra Leone to remember the hundreds of thousands of victims of the 11-year conflict. One of the many outcomes of these symposiums is symbolic reparation by the government establishing 23 March as National Victim's Commemoration day; the day the first shot was fired in 1991 officially marking the beginning of the conflict. Under international law, victims of human rights abuses have a right to full reparations and a prompt and effective procedure for obtaining them.

Coinciding with the end to the violence and human rights abuses in Sierra Leone was the establishment of the Special Court for Sierra Leone and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission to address the impunity for those who endured killings, mutilations, rape and other forms of sexual violence, sexual slavery and conscription of children during a decade of internal armed conflict. Addressing impunity requires that the truth is told, that justice is done and that full reparations are provided for victims.

To date the Special Court for Sierra Leone, with a mandate to prosecute those "*who bear the greatest responsibility*" for crimes against humanity, and other serious violations of international law during Sierra Leone's armed conflict, has indicted 11 of the thousands of persons responsible for war crimes and crimes against humanity committed since 30 November 1996, more than five years after the conflict started. Of those 11 people, two have died, and one remains at large. Although the prosecution of a small number of those responsible for these crimes since 1996 is an important contribution towards ending impunity in Sierra Leone it addresses only a small number of the persons responsible for the crimes committed. The TRC, created as a part of the Lome Peace Accord, has also played a role in addressing impunity by creating an historical record of violations of international human rights and humanitarian law committed during the conflict, identifying the reasons for those abuses, and coming up with a framework of recommendations to help build a strong foundation for the future of Sierra Leone. So far, however, these mechanisms have only facilitated a partial response to addressing impunity as to date no form of reparation has been provided to any of Sierra Leone's many victims by the government.

Amnesty International was disappointed that the Statute of the Special Court did not follow the example of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court by authorizing the Special Court to award reparations for victims of crimes within its jurisdiction, including restitution, compensation, rehabilitation, satisfaction and guarantees of non-repetition. Such reparations are integral to achieving justice for the victims and also assisting them to rebuild their lives.

Although the TRC's report made detailed recommendations for the provision of reparations to those who had suffered throughout the conflict, to date these recommendations have not been implemented. The recommendations propose responding to the specific needs of victims, rather than providing financial compensation. It recommends measures in the areas of health, pensions, education, skills training and micro-credit, community reparations and "*symbolic*" reparations. For certain categories of victims – including those whose limbs had been deliberately amputated, other war wounded, and survivors of rape and other forms of sexual violence – the TRC recommends that they be given free physical and, as appropriate, psychological care throughout

their lives or for as long as necessary. As of today, although the TRC does not have the resources or the mandate to provide reparations, the TRC Act requires that the government implement the recommendations of the report in a timely manner as a matter of law.

In the beginning of the year, a six-person task force for reparations has been set up by National Commission for Social Action (NACSA), the same commission recommended in the TRC report to deal with reparations. The task force includes representation from civil society, the victims, and the vice president's office, the United Nations Integrated Office in Sierra Leone, a former TRC commissioner, and NACSA as the chair. Amnesty International welcomes this development, but was disappointed that no women or organizations working for women's rights were represented on the task force. Although the Amnesty International understands that the composition of the task force cannot change at this point, it hopes that other measures will be taken to ensure that women's voices and concerns are taken into account with regard to reparations.

The National Victims Commemoration Symposium offers an important opportunity to address the vital issue of reparations which are essential to achieving justice for victims and their families. In particular, it may wish to make recommendations to the Special Court on ensuring that, in accordance with Rule 104, the Court provides restitution for the crimes it prosecutes and, in accordance with Rule 105, the national authorities establish a system whereby victims of crimes prosecuted by the Special Court can apply for compensation before the national courts. It will also be important that the TRC recommendations are implemented in a timely manner. It will also be important to follow the developments of the reparations task force especially as they go through the difficult exercise of identifying victims and awarding meaningful reparation to victims. Amnesty International believes that Sierra Leone's victims should not be forgotten simply because they have not been heard.

United Nations  **Nations Unies**

United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL)

UNMIL Public Information Office Media Summary 27 March 2007

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

International Clips on Liberia

UN Envoy Underlines Need for Better Policing of Borders

Mar 26, 2007 (UN News Service/All Africa Global Media via COMTEX) --Opening a new immigration office in a provincial capital in Liberia's west, a senior United Nations envoy to the country today stressed that cross-border traffic in small arms, light weapons and rebels continues to threaten peace and stability in West Africa. Jordan Ryan, the Secretary-General's Deputy Special Representative for Recovery and Governance, called for a comprehensive peace and security strategy for the region as he launched the office in Tubmanburg, capital of Bomi County.

International Clips on West Africa

BBC Last Updated: Tuesday, 27 March 2007, 11:49 GMT 12:49 UK

Rebel leader 'is new Ivorian PM'

The leader of Ivory Coast's New Forces rebels, Guillaume Soro, is to be named as prime minister, his group says. Mediators from Burkina Faso say an agreement was signed on Monday but President Laurent Gbagbo has not yet confirmed the reports. Mr Soro, 35, and his bitter enemy President Gbagbo signed a peace deal in Burkina Faso earlier this month. Ivory Coast has been in crisis since the New Forces seized the north of the country in September 2002.

Local Media – Newspaper

United States Donates Road Maintenance Equipment to Liberia

(The News, The Inquirer, The Informer, Heritage and Daily Observer)

- The Government of the United States of America yesterday turned over a consignment of road maintenance equipment to the Liberian Government for the commencement of road repairs during the dry season.
- The equipment included one caterpillar motor grader, two front-end loaders and one backhoe loader. They are part of 15 pieces of road maintenance equipment valued at US\$2 million.

Armed Gangsters Raid Gbarnga

(Daily Observer)

- A group of armed men over the weekend stormed Gbarnga, Bong County, and raided the homes of several business people and made away with thousands of dollars worth of properties. The robbers drove from Monrovia to Gbarnga in a commercial vehicle (yellow sedan taxi) allegedly under the command of one "Bull-dog".

UNMIL Hands Over Immigration Office in Tubmanburg

(The Informer and The Tribute)

- As part of efforts to strengthen the rule of law in post-war Liberia, the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) has turned over to authorities of the Bureau of

Immigration and Naturalization a six-room regional office building in Tubmanburg, Bomi County. The initiative was funded by UNMIL's Quick Impact Projects.

Government Solicits Assistance for Storm Victims in Nimba County

(The Informer, National Chronicle, Daily Observer and Heritage)

- A preliminary assessment by local authorities in Nimba County has revealed a true picture of the damage caused by a storm that hit Ganta last week. The roofs of 42 structures were reportedly uprooted, rendering thousands of people homeless. However, a release from the Executive Mansion said the incident has claimed the attention of the President, disclosing that plans are now underway to seek assistance for victims of the incident.

UNDP Donates Vehicles and Equipment to Agriculture

(The News)

- [sic:] The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) last Friday donated a vehicle, computer and accessories, office equipment and furniture to the Ministry of Agriculture. The items are intended to enhance the smooth operation of the Human Security Fund (HSF) Project of the ministry.
- UNDP Country Director, Steve Ursino said the donation would help build the capacity of the ministry and will help employees to better plan and implement development programmes.

Local Media – Radio Veritas *(News monitored today at 9:45 am)*

Presidency Lacks Evidence to Prosecute Sacked Mines Ministers

- The Press Secretary to President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Mr. Cyrus Badio yesterday said that there were enough evidence to dismiss the two Lands and Mines Ministry officials but the Government lacked sufficient evidence to prosecute them, emphasizing that when the Government cannot find sufficient evidence to prosecute corrupt officials, President Johnson Sirleaf can only dismiss at will. The remarks were in respond to a reporter's question as to the fate of some Government officials who had just been sacked.

(Also reported on ELBS and Star Radio)

US Envoy Says GEMAP Experts Should Take Credit for Progress

- Appearing on a radio talk-show yesterday, United States Ambassador Donald Booth contended that the GEMAP Experts currently serving in some sectors of the Government should take credit for the increase in revenue and the economic reform measure put in place, but were blameless for economic malpractices at the National Port Authority, Lands and Mines Ministry and other Government sectors.
- Ambassador Booth's commends were in reaction to domestic criticisms that US\$20 million was too much to spend on GEMAP foreign experts and that the performance of some of the GEMAP expert was questionable. He expounded that the US contributed US\$11 million of the US\$20 million allocated for GEMAP experts and setting up a computerized system to link the Central Bank of Liberia to other commercial entities.

(Also reported on ELBS and Star Radio)

Immigration Joggles Officers

- According to a press statement, the Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization effected several changes in its administrative and command structures appointing Col. Feweh Sherman as Acting Director of the Roberts International Airport, Lt.-Col Coralline Capehart as Acting Deputy Director at the Airport, Col. Nelson Tweh as County Commander of Grand Gedeh County, Col. William Sleebo as Acting Regional Commander, Lt.-Col. Fred Krubo as Chief of Operations while Lt.- Col. Thomas Kahn becomes Commander of Protective Internal Security Division of the County. Also, the Bureau named Col. Julius Wleh as Acting Director of Border Patrols.

- On the other hand, the Bureau suspended with immediate effect the Roberts International Airport Detachment Director Col. Yohn Voker, and Region Four Regional Commander Col. George Harris as well as the Protective Internal Security Division Commander of Grand Gedeh, Col. George Karyah and the Executive Secretary in the office of the Commissioner Lt.-Col. James Johnson.
- According to the Chief of Press and Public Affairs at the Bureau, the officers were suspended for administrative reasons and act incompatible with their code of conduct.

(Also reported on ELBS and Star Radio)

Lofa County Rice Farmers Get New Rice Species

- According to a release, some 2,000 rice farmers in Lofa County would benefit from a swamp rice development programme under the auspices of an international non-governmental organization; Vision in Africa which has targeted Salayea, Voinjama, Kolahun and Foyah Districts for the programme.
- Under the programme, the Diastriacts' farmers would be given a New Rice for Africa (NERICA) rice seed, basic farming tools and introduced to a new intermediary technology to enhance their rice production and output per year.
- The organization's Country Director, Dr. Shea Shelton said that the NGO's programme was being supported by the United States Department of Agriculture's Food for Progress Programme and it is the first time that NERICA was being introduced in Lofa County.

(Also reported on ELBS and Star Radio)

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 or would like further information on the content of the summaries, please contact Mr. Weah Karpeh at karpeh@un.org.

Voice of America

Tuesday, 27 March 2007

Rwandan Pleads Not Guilty to Crimes Against Humanity in Canadian Court

A Rwandan man accused of taking part in Rwanda's 1994 genocide pleaded not guilty on Monday at the opening of a war crimes trial in the Canadian province of Quebec, Montreal.

Desire Munyaneza is the first person to stand trial in Canada under its Crimes Against Humanity and War Crimes act passed in 2000.

The Quebec high court heard testimony from a young woman who says she saw some of the killing.

Prosecutors accuse Munyaneza of raping and killing civilians in Butare in southern Rwanda. In 1994, Hutu extremists killed about 800,000 ethnic Tutsis and politically moderate Hutus.

Munyaneza arrived in Canada a decade ago to seek asylum. Canada rejected his request because it suspected he was involved with the genocide. He was arrested in 2005.

Retired Canadian General Romeo Dallaire, who was with the United Nations peacekeeping force in Rwanda, also is expected to testify against Munyaneza.