

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

**PRESS CLIPPINGS**

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

Thursday, October 28, 2004

The press clips are produced Monday to Friday.  
If you are aware of omissions or have any comments or suggestions please contact  
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## ***SPECIAL COURT...***

# Prosecution witness turns defence



David Crane

### **SPECIAL COURT**

*FROM PAGE 1*

with the junta from 1998 until 2001 when the peace accord was signed.

Since his stay with the rebels, the witness said, they were very helpful to the civilians in terms of protection and provision of food.

A camp, according to the witness, was even opened by the rebels for the housing of thousands of civilians who were caught up behind the lines.

Answering to questions for defence Counsel Shekou Touray, representing Morris Kallon, the witness argued that civilians were actually captured by the rebels but that after all, it was in the interest of the former, who had to be protected from the brutality of the Kamajors who were all over the place.

The civilians and the junta, the witness said, were in fact working in close col-

laboration to secure much needed food.

As to whether he ever saw atrocities in his stay with the rebels, the witness noted that he only witnessed the execution of a lady, stressing that to the greatest extent, the rebels were very friendly to them.

Most of the questions posed by the defence Counsel were answered in the affirmative which made the trial judges to raise concern and cautioned the defence not to attempt to put words in the mouth of the witness.

Clearly enough, prosecution was badly disappointed with the testimony of the witness, but according to one of the prosecution counsels, all is not lost as they still have tangible witnesses to prove their case against the indictees.

**BY THEOPHILUSS. GBENDA**

Drama unfolded yesterday at the Special Court for Sierra Leone when prosecution witness TF1-078 in the ongoing RUF trial, gave evidence that was clearly in favour of the defence.

sixty (60), testified as to how in 1998 during the war he fell victim of junta brutality.

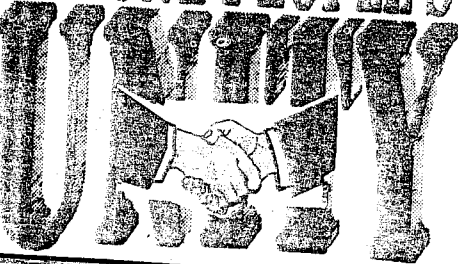
According to him, the first batch of junta fighters who held him, treated him to a thorough beating, which left him in severe pains.

came across him, treated him gently and even gave him a word of caution, necessary to safeguard his life.

According to the witness, who made most of his testimony in close session, he had cause to be

*CONTINUED PAGE 7*

# SIERRA LEONE PEOPLE'S PARTY



Motto:  
One  
Country  
One  
People

VOL:1NO:42

Tuesday October 26th, 2004

Pris500

# Special Court assures justice

themselves."

The judge stressed that one of the important tenets of the rule of law

is "not condemning anybody without giving them the chance to defend themselves."

its former grandeur.

"We know about the present and past of Sierra Leone. You are the future," he told them.

Mr. Ayoola related how, in 1946, his elder brother had received a huge send off when he departed from Nigeria to study at Sierra Leone's renowned Fourah Bay College.

"You bear the greatest responsibility for restoring the glory of Sierra Leone," he said. "From what I have seen this afternoon, it can be entrusted in your hands." Said Mr. Ayoola: "Sierra Leone is in the forefront, anywhere in Africa, of submitting itself to the challenges of the rule of law. Sierra Leoneans can be very proud of

third countries, inaccessible to many of those who had been affected. Mr. Vincent extended a personal invitation to the girls to attend trials at the Special Court. "It's your Court," he told them.

Justice Ayoola then drew applause when he praised the quality of the student's questions and jokingly suggested that the students present should receive double promotion. Then, speaking seriously, he urged them to work to restore their country to

The President of the Special Court, Justice Emmanuel Ayoola, told a group of students in Freetown Thursday that they should work for the restoration of justice in their country.

Justice Ayoola, who is a Judge of the Appeals Chamber, along with Special Court Registrar Robin Vincent, visited the Vine Memorial Secondary School for Girls, marking the first time that a Court President has participated in an Outreach event. Mr. Vincent fielded questions from students and teachers, ranging from why some persons were indicted and not others, whether the Court intended to compensate victims of Sierra Leone's civil war, why it was decided to locate the Court in Sierra Leone, and whether students could attend Court proceedings. The Registrar noted that one of the biggest complaints about other tribunals was the fact that they were situated in



Special Court President - Ayoola

# How Credible Is The Special Court?

## Part III

With John Abu 076-644396

*"here there is no vision the people perish." The presiding Judge of the Trials Chamber of the Special Court for Sierra Leone has issued a stern warning to journalists covering proceedings of the Court stop revealing the identity of its witnesses.*

Why is the Special Court hiding the identity of its witnesses? In the first place, who are these witnesses, and how credible are they? Are they Victims or Perpetrators? What role did they play during the decade-long war? Is it ridiculous to see people like George Jonson (Junior Lion) who was himself a perpetrator, testify against people with whom he openly committed the same crime?

The Special Court wants to prevent journalists from entering the Court's premises so that they do not disclose the identity of its witnesses, then it is better the Court continue proceedings behind closed door. What type of justice system is this where people are being prosecuted by their own allies? If a Special Court witness can testify in court that he was part of a rebellion that invaded Freetown and other parts of the country, killed countless numbers of people and left a trail of destruction in their wake, one wonders how credible such a witness is.

Some of the witnesses being hidden by the Special Court need to be questioned. As I indicated in my previous piece, let it not seem as if the Court is inducing witnesses to manufacture evidences against the in-

dictates. Let's look at our court system in Sierra Leone. Are the identities of witnesses concealed? Even in treason and murder trials - witnesses are asked to identify accused persons in court whilst the accused persons sometimes cross-examine the witnesses. But in the case of the Special Court - how can one cross examine a witness when you do not see him or her. There is every possibility that some of these so called witnesses do not even know the people they are testifying against.

The Special Court's prosecution of people after 30 November 1996, is subject to clarification. If the Special Court is a disclaimer to the Lome Peace Agreement in accordance with UN Resolution 1315 then the Lome Peace Agreement should have been discarded. The UN has forgotten the fact that it was due to a guarantee of general amnesty by Article IX (9) of the Lome Peace Agreement that the former fighters laid down their weapons and came out of the bush. This consolidated the peace we are now enjoying.

How will the Special Court compromise the Lome Peace Agreement with the Abidjan Peace Accord? Which one superseeds the other?

Are we trying to address impunity without promoting peace and reconciliation?

The UN seems to be playing a double standard role here. What efforts have been exerted by the UN to end conflicts particularly in Africa? Where was the UN when the rebels took up arms against the people of Sierra Leone? If it were not ECOWAS countries headed by Nigeria

nobody would be enjoying peace today. Where was the Special Court then? Were they waiting to see every Sierra Leonean killed before enforcing Article 3 of the Geneva Convention which condemns violations of international humanitarian law, war crimes and crimes against humanity?

What is the UN doing about the war in Iraq? What about the Israel/Palestine conflict? Are we genuinely talking about war crimes and violation of international humanitarian law? Chinua Achebe said in one of his literature books that 'the white man was very clever. He came quietly and peacefully with his religion. We were amazed by his foolishness and allowed him to stay. Now he has won our tribe and our clans can no longer act like one. He has put a knife on the things that once held us together. Now we are falling apart. The whiteman manufactures weapons of mass destruction and sells them to African warlords to kill their Kingsmen. At the end, the same whiteman becomes their arbiters.'

When the AFRC ousted the democratically elected government of President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah in 1997, what role did the UN play in the whole drama? Didn't we see America and Britain coming to evacuate their nationals? Did they tell the rebels to stop killing and burning houses? After the ECOMOG intervention in 1998 did the rebels not continue to wreak more havoc and even returned to Freetown in January 1999? After they took over the city at the time, what role did the UN play in restoring sanity? Was it not the January 6 invasion that culminated in the signing of the Lome Peace Agreement which finally laid the foundation for the peace we now enjoy? But today it has been discarded.

Again, I want to make it abundantly clear that I am not against holding people accountable for their crimes, rather I am questioning the credibility of the system of justice as

## 'Civilians were captured for their own good' - Witness

By Tamba Borbor

The witness currently testifying at the Special Court with code number: TFI-078 has disclosed at the ongoing trials of the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) at the Trials Chamber that civilians were

captured for their own good. Under cross-examination by Defence Counsel for Morris Kallon- Shekou Toure, the witness recalled a town in the Kono district called Maiyor where he said civilians were caught by the "junta" and "taken to a safer place" as the

junta Forces were being attacked by those he described as "enemy Forces." He noted that whenever civilians were captured, they were been taken care of by the Welfare Committee headed by a

Contd. Page 2

### Civilians were captured for their own good

From Front Page

group he termed- the G5. Recounting the period between June 1998 to December 1998, the Special Court witness explained that the one of the codes of conduct of the war on the part of the junta was to protect the lives of civilians; adding that this was more the

Committee of the junta was established. Asked by Defence Counsel- Shekou Toure about Morris Kallon's relationship with civilians, the witness disclosed that his relationship was very good and that on the many occasions he visited the RUF man at his home in Koidu, he met little girls

care of and treated well. However, the Prosecution witness has been hampered from testifying owing to the severe power cut that has hit the Court, which has prevented it from conducting its daily sittings. It is hoped according to a Security Guard at the Special Court that power would be restored today hence allowing for the Court's

BWP K20

Monday, Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> 2004

Tuesday October 26th. 2004

SALONE TIMES

## Salone News... Salone News... Salone News... SPECIAL COURT PRESIDENT URGES STUDENTS TO WORK FOR JUSTICE

*The President of the Special Court, Justice Emmanuel Ayoola, told a group of students in Freetown Thursday that they should work for the restoration of justice in their country.*

Justice Ayoola, who is a Judge of the Appeals Chamber, along with Special Court Registrar Robin Vincent, visited the Vine Memorial Secondary School for Girls, marking the first time that a Court President has participated in an Outreach event.

Mr. Vincent fielded questions from students and teachers, ranging from why some persons were indicted and not others, whether the court intended to compensate victims of Sierra Leone's civil war, why it was decided to locate the court in Sierra Leone, and whether students could attend Court proceedings.

The Registrar noted that one of the biggest complaints about other tribunals was the fact that they were situated in third countries, inaccessible to many of those who had been affected. Mr. Vincent extended a personal invitation to the girls to attend trials at the Special Court.

"It's your Court," he told them.

Justice Ayoola then drew applause when he praised the quality of the students' questions and jokingly suggested that the students present should receive double promotion. Then, speaking seriously, he urged them to work to restore their country to its former grandeur.

"We know about the present and past of Sierra Leone. You are the future," he told them.

Mr. Ayoola related how, in 1946, his elder brother had received a huge send off when he departed from Nigeria to study at Sierra Leone's renowned Fourah Bay College.

"You bear the greatest responsibility for restoring the glory of Sierra Leone," he said. "From what I have seen this afternoon, it can be entrusted in your hands."



*Justice Ayoola*

Said Mr. Ayoola: "Sierra Leone is in the forefront, everywhere in Africa, of submitting itself to the challenges of the rule of law. Sierra Leoneans can be very proud of themselves."

The Judge stressed that one of the important tenets of the rule of law is "not condemning anybody without giving them the chance to defend themselves."



## HINGA NORMAN ALLEGEDLY WRITES EXPLOSIVE LETTER FROM JAIL

Wednesday October 27, 2004

Chief Hinga Norman has allegedly written what looks like a very explosive letter from jail and the alleged letter which has been made available to COCORIOKO by an insider within the ruling SLPP is causing unease in Sierra Leone's political circles.

The alleged letter makes startling assertions and accusations with the obviously aggrieved Chief pointing fingers at President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah for his incarceration and Alhaji Daramy Rogers for allegedly conniving with the Special Court and setting up Allieu Kondowa's arrest. Another explosive issue in the alleged letter is Hinga Norman's alleged assertion that Civil Defence Force (CDF) members arrested and detained were "Mendes and of the Kamajor wing alone". Copies of the letter were sent to President Kabbah, Hon. R.E.S. Lagao, who is an SLPP member of Parliament described in the letter as Chairman of the National Coordinating Committee of the CDF; The Registrar/Prosecutor of the Special Court, which is trying Norman and two other CDF members for alleged War Crimes; the Principal Defender of the Special Court; Norman's standby Counsel and all CDF Defence Counsel; the Norman Defence teams at home and abroad, all District Commissioners of the CDF, family, Press and Norman's file.

### READ THE LETTER

#### ALLEGED EXPLOSIVE LETTER FROM JAIL, WRITTEN BY CHIEF HINGA NORMAN

Alhaji Daramy Rogers

5 Tawa Street

Bo

13th Oct. 2004

My dear friend and brother,

I am surprised that since my (our) Arrest and Detention, ( Chief Samuel Hinga Norman, Moinina Fofana and Allieu Kondowa, all being Mendes and of the Kamajor wing alone) you, a very senior member of the CDF-Kamajor, have not found it necessary to pay us a single day's visit up to date of this letter, even though I am aware of the fact that you are paying constant visits to the detention centre as an agent of the (Prosecutor ?) or (Prosecution ?) like one day sometime in Sept. 2004, when you arrived at the Detention Centre in a Maroon colour jeep-Reg. No. ABU 810.

Bearer, is one of the investigators of the CDF Defence Team on behalf of the Accused who are still Detained and waiting to be served with indictment to commence their Trial. Once he met you and found it

difficult to get your cooperation in discussing issues relative to our defence, you being a very senior member of the CDF-Kamajor..

Indeed, it pleased the Government of the SLPP under President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah who wrote to the United Nations to have us (Samuel Hinga Norman, Moinina Fofana and Allieu Kondowa -KAMAJORS and MENDES only ) indicted for DEFENDING the MENDES and also for assisting the ECOMOG /SLAF and UNAMSIL to RESTORE the constitution and REINSTATE him the President to power , declaring us the MENDE KAMAJORS especially as CANNIBALS, MURDERERS, RAPISTS and WAR CRIMINALS of despicable characters considering that you, others and I always ate together from the same tray/dish at Base Zero.

During the WAR, You were , and still you are the Chairman of the Appointments &Promotion Committee and a member of the BASE ZERO WAR COUNCIL your responsibility being that of recommending the most suitable members of the CDF/SL for senior Commanders position in the battlefield.This position you still hold until Parliament of Sierra Leone (eventually ?) Dissolves the CDF/SL.Therefore, even inspite of your being a Prosecution AGENT , you are requested to please be in readiness to be available at any time the CDF Defence Team considers your suitability to testify in court relative to activities that may be to your knowledge in the period under review especially considering that you ( Alhaji Daramy Rogers ) served in a government that DECLARED SIERRA LEONE A ONE-PARTY STATE and you became a junior minister in the Ministry of Agriculture in that government and that the Declaration of the ONE PARTY system was one of the KEY reasons for the Rebel War in Sierra Leone.

That you Alhaji Daramy Rogers became :

- a) Chairman Appointments & Promotion Committee
- b) Regional Coordinator-Southern Province
- c)Liason , CDF/ECOMOG -Southern Province
- d) Overall Administrator of the entire Southern Region

You, Alhaji Daramy Rogers, became a Kamajor initiate together with your son , Junior Rogers, alais Chemical, on the same day at Base Zero and when you became Regional Coordinator and took over Administrative Control of the South , your son became a member of the RUF with your consent ( he is still a member of the RUF) and your son carried out lootings in Bo Town and environs and stored those looted properties in your house , some of the loots are still suspected to be in your possession (I hope that on receipt of this letter , you may not be tempted to dispense with all of them).

You , Alhaji Daramy Rogers , should not be a paid Agent for the Prosecution and I hope the Prosecution is NOT paying you as an Agent for services rendered. You were a member of the SLPP , then you became a member of the APC and now, you are a member of the SLPP/CDF/KAMAJOR/ and SCSL PROSECUTION TEAM . What are you going to become next , is I guess , an informant to the ICC when they start investigating the SCSL in the very near future, because that was exactly what you did to Allieu Kondowa , when you collected money from the Prosecution , bought a bag of rice , took that rice with some loaves of bread and some cash to Kondowa in a village near Bumpeh one evening pretending to Kondowa



you were his friend and the very next morning , the Sierra Leone Police picked Kondowa up and detained him on orders allegedly from the Special Court for Sierra Leone. Alahu-Akbar !!!

The bearer of this letter or any one connected with the defence Team of the Accused may at any time call on you ( not for any harmful reason ) for clarification of relevant issues. Please feel free to receive them in peace with the sole understanding that we should all do our very best in revealing the truth to get at the criminals NOT selectively by SCSL method but by expressing lies and those who tell lies to hide their crimes.

ALAHU-AKBAR

My warmest regards , friendly , brotherly and KAMAJOR salutations to you and all Senior Members.

and brother,

Your friend

Hinga Norman-JP

Cief Samuel

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Australian Broadcasting Corporation

TV PROGRAM TRANSCRIPT

LOCATION: <http://www.abc.net.au/7.30/content/2004/s1229311.htm>

Broadcast: 27/10/2004

THE  
7.30  
REPORT

## **Trial continues of Australian policeman in Sierra Leone**

Reporter: Mick O'Donnell

MAXINE McKEW: In Sierra Leone today the High Court is continuing to hear the prosecution of an Australian policeman - Peter Halloran - for sex charges involving a 13-year-old girl.

The Victorian detective - who's in the strife-torn West African country as a war crimes investigator - vehemently denies the charges.

Two inquiries outside the Sierra Leone High Court have seriously criticised the investigation of Halloran's case.

The UN-backed war crimes tribunal ordered its own inquiry, which found Halloran had no case to answer.

Mick O'Donnell reports on a case which pits two Australian detectives on foreign soil against each other.

MICK O'DONNELL: In today's Sierra Leone, a West African community torn by 10 years of civil war, it's not easy for a young girl to find work.

So it was good news last May when 13-year-old Kadie Kabia learnt from her brother that his boss, an Australian policeman, was offering a job.

KADIE KABIA, ALLEGED VICTIM (RE-ENACTMENT): He stop at the house and asked to find a nanny that will look after his three-year-old son.

MICK O'DONNELL: Victorian detective Peter Halloran was actually seeking a nanny for a girlfriend, soon to arrive with her child from Hong Kong.

Halloran was on leave from the Victorian police, working in the capital, Freetown, for the UN-backed Special Court of Sierra Leone investigating war crimes.

He and two Australian women, ex-police officers, and a Canadian man, all working for the Special Court, shared a 2-storey house overlooking Freetown.

Halloran interviewed the girl at the house, testing Kadie Kabia's ability to write English.

KADIE KABIA: He said I was not too bad, but I must learn computer fast enough to be able to communicate with his wife, who was deaf and dumb.

MICK O'DONNELL: There are wildly conflicting claims about what happened over the next couple of days, when the girl stayed at the house, but Halloran now faces four charges involving sex with the young teenager.

TIM CARRODUS, FRIEND: There's nothing in it, I'm absolutely convinced.

MICK O'DONNELL: Tim Carrodus is a former Victorian police detective who's known Peter Halloran for 25 years.

He just returned from Sierra Leone, where he arranged bail and a top lawyer for his friend.

TIM CARRODUS: He hasn't hidden anybody in the house, he hasn't done anything improper whatsoever.

MICK O'DONNELL: Carrodus is highly critical of the investigation which led to Halloran's arrest, which was prompted by one of Halloran's flatmates, Tasmanian detective Mandy Cordwell, who has said to the 7.30 Report she can't interview.

Cordwell has told the Sierra Leone High Court her suspicions were raised when she saw young Kadie Kabia coming in and out of Halloran's room.

The High Court in Freetown has heard that Mandy Cordwell took Kadie Kabia from the house and questioned her with a Sierra Leonean police sergeant.

TIM CARRODUS: A parent or a guardian was not present during the interview - that's standard police procedure, that you never interview a young person without the parent or guardian being present.

KADIE KABIA: I insisted that it was not true and that Peter did not assault me in any way.

MICK O'DONNELL: But the girl has told the court Mandy Cordwell offered her inducements to accuse Halloran.

KADIE KABIA: The two women began to prevail upon me, telling me to say that Peter played with my breast and sexually assaulted me, telling me that they would build a house for my family and take me to the United States for further studies.

MICK O'DONNELL: After several hours in that first interview, the young girl, who speaks the Krio dialect, not English, finally signed a statement alleging Halloran had a sexual relationship with her.

KADIE KABIA: So I said if that's what you want me to say, then I agree, so I said it.

TIM CARRODUS: But when she gave her oral evidence at the trial she said she didn't say that at all, that didn't happen, that Mandy told her to say it.

MICK O'DONNELL: Before the trial, the Special Court of Sierra Leone, the war crimes court Halloran works for, conducted its own board of inquiry into the allegations.

Its report is highly critical of the Australian detective Mandy Cordwell.

SPECIAL COURT OF SIERRA LEONE BOARD OF INQUIRY: "As a professional, Mandy's behaviour is difficult to understand.

Mandy's behaviour does not demonstrate a concern for the girl's welfare."

MICK O'DONNELL: The board of inquiry questions why, if Mandy Cordwell was so concerned about seeing the young girl go into Halloran's room: "She takes no actions to safeguard the welfare of the child."

And it says Cordwell tried: "To put ideas in the girl's head about serious sexual assault."

Nigel Savidge, a specialist in police investigation methods at Edith Cowan University, agrees that that strict procedure should have been followed to ensure the young girl's case was not prejudiced.

NIGEL SAVIDGE, POLICE STUDIES, EDITH COWAN UNIVERSITY: You should be asking non-leading, open-ended questions to encourage a narrative response rather than putting suggestions to the witness.

MICK O'DONNELL: What about the simple fact of somebody who was a house-mate, a flatmate, of the person being investigated, actually carrying out the investigation?

NIGEL SAVIDGE: Again, it's not the sort of thing that you would expect to see happening here.

MICK O'DONNELL: The Special Court's board of inquiry found there was no credible evidence against Halloran, but its report does criticise him for being "irresponsible for getting himself into the situation where suspicion could be raised."

The young girl's family claim they've been harassed by Sierra Leonean authorities for refusing to support the case against Halloran.

FAMILY MEMBER: We denied the allegations against Peter and of us being bribed.

He started slapping and beating me up.

He also humiliated me.

TIM CARRODUS: Those threats, they claim, have come from the Attorney-General of the country, from the Director of Public Prosecutions and from the head of the CID.

MICK O'DONNELL: Back in Australia, police circles are rife with claims that Peter Halloran left the National Crime Authority in the 1980s under a cloud.

Peter Halloran's lawyer emphatically denies this.

The 7.30 Report has confirmed that questions were raised at senior NCA levels about Halloran's activities during a drug investigation in the Philippines.

Australian Federal Police had observed him in company with sex-trade figures, including an adult hostess outside a bar.

One senior former NCA source says that after this Halloran was persona non grata.

But another senior former NCA source says that Halloran was just doing his job when photographed with the sex-trade figures.

He says that the allegations arose from rivalry with the Federal Police and were resolved well before Halloran left the NCA.

The Australian Federal Police have denied reports they're considering whether Halloran should be charged under Australian sex-tourism laws over the Sierra Leone case.

Given the turnaround by the central witness, the young girl, this seems unlikely.

NIGEL SAVIDGE: It would be difficult if you've got varying accounts given to various bodies, then it would be difficult for a court, I would suggest, to make an appropriate, or draw an appropriate conclusion.

MICK O'DONNELL: Peter Halloran is due to appear in the Sierra Leone High Court again today.

He's expected to face evidence from another flatmate, a Canadian.

The real work of the Australian detectives involved in the case - tracking down war criminals - has been sidetracked.

MAXINE McKEW: That report from Mick O'Donnell.

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## To Witness Alleged Child Abuse Trial

# Australian High Commissioner Breezes In



Australian High Commissioner to Ghana Jon Richardson is in Freetown to observe the trial in the High Court of the United Nations backed Special Court war crimes investigator, 56-year-old Australian Peter Halloran.

Peter Halloran has been standing trial in a four-count indictment of sexually abusing a girl under 14 years.

High Commissioner Jon Richardson was in court Wednesday October 27 to witness the day's proceedings. At this session, a former Special Court Legal Counsel from Switzerland Alberto Fabbio was expected to present on behalf of the State Prosecution the report written on the Special Court investigation into the alleged sexual crime committed by Peter Halloran.

Due to his non-arrival in Freetown, the case was adjourned to next Thursday November 4, 2004.

Albert Fabbio was one of three members of the Special Court Board of Inquiry that reviewed the allegations against Peter Halloran. The board com-

prised Dr. Allan White, Special Court Chief War Crimes Investigator and Bob Parnell, Special Court Chief of Security, who died suddenly of a heart attack in Freetown Friday October 22.

According to a Special Court press release, the Board of Inquiry found insufficient evidence to support the allegations against Peter Halloran.

Albert Fabbio is being flown in by the state prosecution to present, as a prosecution witness into evidence the report written on the Special Court's own investigation into the allegation.

Albert Fabbio is expected to have arrived in Freetown prior to next Thursday's court session.

Australian High Commissioner Jon Richardson told waiting reporters in court yesterday: "I came to observe the trial of Peter Halloran as we have been following the case very closely.

"I am here also to re-inforce at a high level the Australian Government's concern, firstly, to ensure that Peter Halloran receives proper justice through fair and transparent

judicial process under Sierra Leonean Law.

"We also made clear our concerns about issues raised in a report by the National Forum for Human Rights about the conduct of the trial.

"We have asked that the claims be properly investigated."

It will be recalled that the National Forum for Human Rights recently reported alleged intimidation of witnesses and the Police bringing pressure to bear on witnesses.

High Commissioner Jon Richardson emphasised to the press that: "It is important to understand our diplomatic and consular role to ensure that the judicial processes are fair and transparent and to see that the Australian individual's welfare is protected, while being subjected to judicial process.

The Australian diplomat further reinforced that: "Australia is also resolute in its determination to address the crime of sexual exploitation of children and that the allegation of such crimes, should be fully tested under the laws

of the country concerned; but this must always be done with natural justice and due process."

High Commissioner Jon Richardson has already held discussions with Attorney General and Minister of Justice Frederick Carew.

According to the Senior Australian envoy, Attorney General Fredrick Carew has given the "assurance of the Sierra Leone Government's concern to have a fair and expeditious trial process, and that the government recognizes that it is under international scrutiny with respect to the handling of the case in terms of the assessment of the implementation of the rule of law in Sierra Leone."

High Commissioner Jon Richardson has been proposed as the Australian High Commissioner to Sierra Leone while the Australian High Commission in Accra, Ghana, has in the meantime, diplomatic and consular responsibilities for Sierra Leone.

Australian print and television journalists are in Freetown to cover the trial.

*Christian Alunfor*

*24<sup>th</sup>*

*Friday Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> 2004*

**UNMIL Public Information Office**  
**Press Clips 25 Oct 2004**

## **Liberia, I.Coast, Guinea triangle still flashpoint for west Africa violence**

*by Zoom Dosso*

**DANANE, Ivory Coast, Oct 25 (AFP)** - The stagnant Ivory Coast peace process is evoking fears that idle fighters are looking to neighbors Liberia and Guinea to foment further unrest in volatile west Africa.

"There have been reports lately that certain renegade members of our movement are joining forces with Liberians to create dissent within our ranks and possibly start something either here or nearby," Abou Faman Coulibaly, commander of the rebel Movement for the People of the Ivorian Great West (MPIGO), told AFP.

"The ruling party in (Ivory Coast's main city) Abidjan is financing them, on Guinean or Liberian soil, so that they can attack us from both sides."

The triangle linking the west African neighbors has been a hotbed of unrest for more than a decade, sending thousands of refugees fleeing across borders and destroying once vibrant agricultural economies.

It was from northeastern Liberia's Nimba county that former president Charles Taylor launched his scorched-earth campaign in 1989, which lasted for seven years.

A second rebellion in Liberia, begun in 1999 and brought to an end in August last year, is known to have been backed by Guinea and Ivory Coast.

Taylor is also thought to have financed MPIGO as part of the rebel uprising against Ivory Coast President Laurent Gbagbo in September 2002, which plunged the world's top cocoa producer into its current crisis.

Diplomatic and humanitarian sources say that Guinea's forested region, a 30-minute walk from Nimba county capital Ganta and a stone's throw from Ivory Coast, is on the cusp of explosion in a bid to topple ailing President Lansana Conte.

The abundance of gold, rubber and timber in the region is a powerful incentive for chaos, according to a July report by the International Crisis Group. Control over profits from the iron ore buried within the Mount Nimba range between Liberia and Ivory Coast could also fuel future conflict.

Though thousands of UN and French peacekeepers are on the ground, it is MPIGO fighters who maintain control of the Ivorian side of the border. There are no international troops within 15 kilometers (10 miles) over difficult roads.

Bangladeshi troops based in Liberia's border town of Loguatu say relations with MPIGO fighters are "friendly," though contacts between the two sides are limited.

Ivory Coast's process to disarm an estimated 30,000 fighters has been postponed three times over rebel objections to surrendering their weapons before a series of political reforms mandated under a January 2003 peace pact are implemented.

And while Liberia's disarmament seems a success, enrolling some 85,000 people ahead of its October 30 deadline, UN peacekeepers say they know there is heavy artillery stashed in the bush, making a reprise of conflict all the more likely.

Those ex-combatants are of greatest concern for Abou Faman and his ranks, who have since January last year combined forces with two other rebel groups to form the New Forces.

"Since we heard that these Liberians that we chased from our country have joined together with some of our dissident brothers, we have decided to regroup and make known that we are here, vigilant, and ready to handle anything thrown at us," he said.

"There are bad seeds in every group," said Abou Faman. "But we have begun to eliminate them from our organization and expect there to be no more problems."

Such swagger could be due to the heavily armed MPIGO fighters still seen at border checkpoints set up at five-kilometer (three-mile) intervals on roads leading to Danane, but Abou Faman dismissed that as nonsense.

"Those are toy guns," he said. "Water pistols and such - you know, just for fun."



10/25/2004 12:15:37

## **Former Liberian warlord dies in Nigeria**

Abuja (dpa) - Former Liberian warlord, Roosevelt Johnson, died in Jos, central Nigeria, at the age of 54, local reports said Monday.

Johnson was reported to have died of a heart disease on Sunday, after being hospitalized several times during the last one and a half years.

The former warlord had been living in Jos since 1999 when he was granted asylum by the Nigerian government.

Also in Nigerian exile is former Liberian president, Charles Taylor, who is now living in Calabar in the Niger Delta.

The late Johnson was Minister of Rural Development in Charles Taylor's administration, until he was dismissed from cabinet in April 1998 and reappointed as **Liberias** ambassador to India.

One month after he was appointed ambassador, he travelled to the United States for medical treatment, a mission to which Taylor reportedly contributed 46,000 dollars.

Johnson later accused Taylor of dishing out all posts in **Liberias** security agencies, the army and the police with members of his rebel faction, the National Patriotic Front of **Liberia**.

Funeral arrangements for the former warlord have not yet been announced.

(dpa - Deutsche Presse-Agentur)

## Special Court Mourns Chief Security

The Chief of Security for the Special Court for Sierra Leone, Bob Parnell, passed away in Choithram Hospital in Freetown at 16.20 last Friday.

According to a statement by the Special Court Registrar Robin Vincent, "I have expressed condolences on behalf of all staff, the Judges and the Management Committee to Bob's wife of 38 years, Rosemary and their two children Robert Jr and Kelly."

Bob Parnell had a long and distinguished career. He served in the United States Marine Corps for 24 years during which time he rose to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He served in the United States, Asia, Africa and Europe.

Upon leaving the Marine Corps in 1995 he began work with the United States Department of State.

He joined UNICEF in

1999 and was on loan to the Special Court from that organization when he joined us in September 2002.

At the Special Court he was responsible for establishing and maintaining all security systems. He had a long association and strong dedication to Sierra Leone and its people, which is also shared by Rosemary who is a senior logistics officer in the UN World Food Programme.

Bob Parnell was born on August 8, 1946 in North Carolina. He and Rosemary had just celebrated their 38<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

*the Fox & Parnell*

*Monday Feb 28<sup>th</sup> 2004*

The Christian Monitor extend in  
condolences to the family and the  
entire staff of the Special  
Court for Sierra Leone at the  
loss of their Chief of Security,  
Bob Parnell who passed away at  
the Choithram Hospital in  
Freetown at 16:20 pm on October  
22, 2004.

*May his soul rest in perfect  
peace.*

# INDEPENDENT VOICE

Thursday October 28, 2004

Le500

## Fuel Shortage Causes One Hour Blackout at Special Court

It came as a surprise to many people Tuesday at the Special Court room No. 1 when the entire court compound was suddenly hit by total

blackout. All of a sudden, the generator which supplies power to the complex went off

*Contd. back page*

### Fuel Shortage Causes One Hour Blackout at Special Court

#### From front page

causing all the bulbs, loudspeakers and other electrical appliances to shutdown.

This incidence took place during the cross-examination by defence counsel, Shekou Toure, of prosecution's witness TFI-078. This made the judges, lawyers and the public gallery to find their way out of the court room in darkness.

The blackout went on for more than an hour and the court's electrical maintenance staff could not amend the problem which made the court session to be adjourned.

According to reliable sources in the engineer-

ing department and Senior staff members of the court who begged for anonymity, they told this press that the power cut was as a result of fuel shortages. This is not the first time the court is experiencing such problem but that this one was quite different as it was caused by fuel shortage.

However after 45 minutes of the blackout, one of the court's vehicles, a Toyota Hilux, CD 48, drove into the courtyard with a heavy transparent tank loaded with fuel and packed right in front of the engineering section and

off-loaded its precious cargo.

However, the court's engineers could not restart the generator due to lack of knowledge about the operation of the generator. According to a staff at the court, most of the engineers are not qualified to operate the plant.

Meanwhile most of the workers in the court are grumbling that the court employs mostly foreigners who are not as qualified and competent as their Sierra Leonean counterparts to head almost all the departments in the court.

**Sierra Leone: A failed State?**

See  
page 2

# STANDARD TIMES

Thursday October 28, 2004

Le500

## SPECIAL COURT **Blackout holds proceedings at bay**

**BY THEOPHILUS S. GBENDA**

For the past two days, the offices and courts of the Special Court has been rendered impotent due to lack of power supply.

The power supply facility provided by the Court to facilitate its proceedings and official duties has been reportedly broken down, thus has consequently put all trials at a deadlock, creating inconveniences not only for indigees, but also for employees of the Special Court.

There is every speculation that this ugly situation may continue for days, if no solution is offered.

The problem, according to officials, began in the early hours of Tuesday October 26, 2004 while the trial session was in full gear. Although detailed explanation was however hard to come by, officials spoken to indicated that it may not be uncoupled with the complexity of the electrical

works in the establishment, the unwarranted delays in the procurement of fuel or the lack of adequate maintenance of the power source.

Apart from the NPA connection, the court is also equipped with four giant Leister generators manned by a whole unit of mechanics, who reports say, are not too au fait with the operation of the apparently sophisticated plants. This unprecedented blackout, according to court officials, happens to be the longest that has yet struck the complex, and by all indications, has rendered the court a heavy blow as everything has been held to ransom.

Up to press time yesterday, the blackout was still raging and remains to be seen how soon the situation would be effectively handled.

Most angered by the situation are the trial judges, who no doubt have been forced into an unnecessary slumber.

# BLACKOUT HALTS TRIAL AT SPECIAL COURT

By Mohamed Mansaray

*Proceedings at Special Court Room No. 1, New England in Freetown were abruptly halted yesterday due to power failure from the electricity generating plant installed within the court's precinct.*

Judges, lawyers and members in the public gallery had to abandon the court room as all microphones and other communication equip-

ment went off following the blackout which struck at exactly 10:45 am. Early on hour after session resumed. Court sources said SALONE TIME

court has been experiencing intermittent power cuts but that yesterday was the worst. Our source explained that the

power-generating plant developed engine problem the previous day and that the engineers went out of their way to have the fault sorted out.

The blackout struck at a time prosecution witness TF1-078 was being cross-examined by Shekou Turey, defence counsel for the second

SEE BACK PAGE



Court President Justice Ayoola

## Blackout At Special Court

RUF accused Morris Kallon.

The witness testified that he was given severe beating by the rebels when they captured Kono sometime in 1998.

The witness testified however, that there was no agreed and coordinated plan by the rebels to commit atrocities against civilians in the Kono district. He told the court that rebels operated what the witness described as a "civilian camp" for the safety and protection of civilians. "One of the codes of conduct of the war was to protect the lives of civilians, hence the setting up of the Special Welfare Unit (G5)", he said and added that he was also in the camp with his own family.

Asked whether he witnessed the killings of civilians in Kono during that time the witness replied that he saw the execution of one woman for alleged spying-related-allegations.

When counsel Turey further put it to the witness whether forced labour existed in the camp, the witness told the court that forced labour was not the intended primary motive for the operation of the camp.

On food finding missions, the witness said that it was a community service, designed to provide food for civilians and combatants resident in the camp. He added that civilians were accompanied by combatants to forage for food in order to protect them against those he described as enemies such as the Kamajors. The exercise, he testified, was necessary for the survival of all camp inmates. "There were no RUF or junta farms in Kono," he said.

The witness further testified that civilians in the camp were made to carry cocoa and coffee to Buedu in the Kailahun district during that period and returned to the camp with essential commodities.

The witness testified in English and was led in evidence by a prosecution lawyer Alain Werner. The trials continue.

See back page  
Thursday Oct 28th  
2.12.21



## 'Oct. 31st Deadline Compromises UNMIL's Efforts'

**The Inquirer** (Monrovia)

NEWS

October 27, 2004

Posted to the web October 28, 2004

Monrovia

Says Wotorson; Calls for Extension

A Liberian politician, Cletus S. Wotorson says the premature termination of the DD Component of the DDRR program could compromise the United Nations efforts and commitment to the peace process.

In a letter addressed to Ambassador Jacques Paul Klein, the UN Secretary General's special representative in Liberia, Mr. Wotorson said, what is not done properly and effectively is not done at all, therefore, UNMIL must consider the wisdom of reevaluating their October 31st deadline for the ending of the voluntary disarmament.

He recommended that based on the UN's stipulation of the DDRR manual for Liberians, UNMIL must now move quickly to ensure that Liberians seize the ownership of the program. "It is only Liberians who can bring the exercise to sustainable completion with logistical and financial support of the UN", he iterated.

Recalling the past, Mr. Wotorson who is a professional Geophysicist and Geologist, said the premature departure of ECOMOG from Liberia resulted into a catastrophic destruction of the country where many citizens are now victimized.

He called on the UN to consider an extension period of two to five months in its evaluation period discerned by the technical area of the Joint Implementation Unit (JIU) because "the fact remains that many critical areas have had little or no exposure to peacekeepers and have not been accorded the privilege of UNMIL deployment."

He pointed out that there is a need for the NTGL to be financially responsible that is the reason for which the World Bank and IMF came to the country in order to help the NTGL improve in managing its financial capacity.

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from the October 28, 2004 edition - <http://www.csmonitor.com/2004/1028/p04s01-woaf.html>

## Fewer guns, but tensions persist in Liberia

By **Mike Crawley** | Correspondent of The Christian Science Monitor

**ZWEDRU, LIBERIA** - Armed gangs of young men no longer roam the streets of this town hacked out of the dense forests of eastern Liberia, an area laid waste by 14 years of war. A United Nations-sponsored disarmament program has brought enough security to Zwedru that traders sell their goods from stalls along the main street without fear of looting, while men sit chatting at the tea shops until late in the evening.

As Sunday's deadline for the disarmament of Liberia's former warring factions nears, most observers are calling the process a success, albeit a qualified one. More than 90,000 combatants have been demobilized and 26,000 weapons destroyed.

But the complexity of truly bringing peace to this war-ravaged nation becomes apparent one evening when angry voices drown out the buzz of conversation at a tea shop. The argument is about money. A one-time rebel commander is demanding a cut from the payments made to his former soldiers, and he doesn't seem to care who hears.

Attempts at extortion like this one are just one of the unintended consequences of Liberia's disarmament program, which has become one of the biggest forces driving the country's woeful economy. According to various officials working on the process, the \$300 being paid to each demobilized fighter - totaling some \$27 million - is breeding corruption among former commanders and fueling resentment among ordinary Liberians.

Officials say ex-commanders are recruiting civilians to pose as former combatants and briefing them on how pass themselves off as unarmed participants in the war. Those who slip through the screening questions posed by UN military observers are then forced to hand over most of the payment to the commanders; those who fail, particularly the women, often get beaten. Others bypass the screening questions by handing in precisely 150 bullets, the minimum to qualify automatically for disarmament.

Every afternoon in Zwedru, commanders flock to the vehicles dropping off their former troops after the four-day demobilization process to extort a share of the payment. It's a sign that faction leaders retain a substantial amount of control more than a year after former President Charles Taylor went into exile and a transitional government was formed, ending the civil war.

"There will always be unscrupulous commanders who try to benefit from the program," says Clive Jachnik, head of disarmament, demobilization, rehabilitation, and reintegration (DDRR) for the UN mission in Liberia. Mr. Jachnik says the program does not tolerate fraud and cracks down when it uncovers instances of coercion. But he is also critical of policy decisions made before he joined the mission earlier this year. "The planning could have been more comprehensive," he says. "Arms and cash should not be seen to be linked."

Liberians in the rural areas who didn't take up arms say they resent that the fighters who destroyed their country are being rewarded not only with money but also with preferential access to employment. The US has made it policy that all the projects funded through its \$28-million Liberia Community Infrastructure Program must allocate three jobs to ex-combatants for each job that goes to a member of the war-affected community.

"It's like offering me a job because I have done wrong to somebody and not considering the person I



have done wrong to," says Jonah Sampson, a manager with Multi Agrisystem Promoters, which is recruiting laborers for a US-funded project to clear more than 2,000 acres of an oil-palm plantation near the eastern town of Zleeh.

"Everybody felt the effect of the war," says Mr. Sampson. "Why should the emphasis be on ex-combatants?" He says the ex-fighters have been slow to respond to work offers, but if the \$2-a-day jobs were thrown open to the community, every slot would be filled "tomorrow."

During previous failed attempts at demobilization in Liberia, programs aimed only at former combatants "divided communities and caused considerable resentment on the part of civilians who received no special assistance," Oxfam, a British aid agency, warns in a report. An official at the US Embassy in Liberia says the main goal of the US funds are to help the ex-fighters reintegrate: "We are trying to hire as many non-combatants as possible, but the focus is not general employment."

There's a palpable sense of entitlement among many of the ex-combatants. Any day outside the headquarters of the National Commission for DDDR in Monrovia finds dozens of ex-fighters demanding cash for transport, school fees, or food. They defend their preferential treatment. "We are more traumatized than them," argues Prince Neagor, who says he has been a soldier since he was 12. "I was forced to go and fight."

So why aren't more ex-soldiers leaping at the jobs on offer? "The money is too small for them," says Alex Geayea, a former commander with the Movement for Democracy in Liberia, a rebel group.

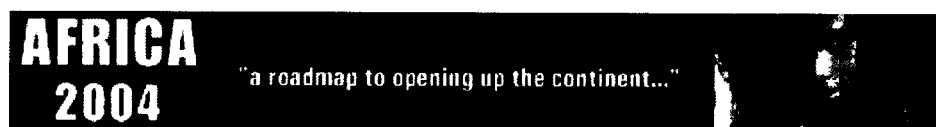
Moses Jarbo, director of the government's National Commission for DDDR, says countries that go back to war don't do so during the demobilization phase, but afterward, especially if former fighters' expectations aren't met. He says Liberia needs a massive public-works program both to provide jobs and rebuild the country's shattered infrastructure.

Donors pledged \$520 million to Liberia in February. Two-thirds of the pledges have come through, but according to Abou Moussa, the UN's chief humanitarian official here, little of the funding available is earmarked for rehabilitation. "I am concerned that if we don't get the money, ex-combatants will start protesting and causing unrest," he says. "We have a fragile peace in Liberia. We don't want to compromise that."

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## Sierra Leone: Doubts About the Effectiveness of Anti-Corruption Institutions

**Inter Press Service** (Johannesburg)

NEWS

October 26, 2004

Posted to the web October 26, 2004

By Lansana Fofana  
Freetown

Corruption. The word has a particular resonance in Sierra Leone, where endemic graft helped lay the ground for a brutal civil war that raged for much of the 1990s.

Last week, Transparency International - the Berlin-based corruption watchdog - ranked Sierra Leone 118th out of 146 countries surveyed for its annual 'Corruption Perceptions Index'.

While a number of other African nations scored worse on the index (Nigeria came in at 144th place), graft clearly remains a problem of alarming proportions in Sierra Leone.

This fact was underscored earlier this month by the country's Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) when it presented its final report to the public after two years of work.

"We recommend that all those in the public sector practice a new culture of ethics and services as part of the fight against the scourge of corruption which saps the life-force out of Sierra Leone," the TRC noted.

The commission was set up in terms of the 1999 peace accord signed in the Togolese capital, Lome, between President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah's government and the rebel Revolutionary United Front (RUF). Inaugurated in 2002, the TRC documented the causes of Sierra Leone's civil war and the human rights violations that occurred during this conflict.

But, is government taking warnings from the commission and civil society about the dangers of graft seriously?

Four years ago, authorities set up an Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) with funding from the British government. Its mandate is to "investigate instances of alleged and suspected corruption referred to it by any person or authority or which has come to its attention, whether by complaint or otherwise."

The ACC's mandate covers both the public and private sectors. Where allegations of graft are borne out by investigations these cases are referred to the Attorney General and Minister of Justice, who decide whether there are sufficient grounds for prosecution.

But, this strategy has proved problematic.

"Political considerations greatly influence which ACC cases the government chooses to prosecute," says publisher Richie Gordon, who has turned his tabloid newspaper - 'Peep' - into a platform for battling graft.

"In its present form the ACC simply cannot eliminate corruption. It is 'tele-guided' and controlled by those in government who have a vested interest in allowing corruption to flourish," he told IPS.

At the very least, the current system of prosecuting graft has allowed a substantial backlog of cases to accumulate.

"By the end of 2002 the investigations department submitted over 40 cases to be prosecuted and up to a year later, only two cases were prosecuted," says James Kanyako, director of investigations at the ACC.

In addition, the commission itself has not escaped criticism - with some claiming that it is used by government to silence opponents.

The ACC has denied these claims. Instead, ACC head Valentine Collier accuses senior public officials of "apathy and indolence," claiming many do not cooperate with the commission to achieve its objectives.

Since October last year, three judges from Commonwealth countries have been attached to Sierra Leone's High Court to hear cases involving corruption - an initiative funded by Britain's Department for International Development and the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation.

The Commonwealth is an association of 53 states that are former British colonies, or which have historic ties to Britain.

"The establishment of a bench within the High Court to deal with cases of corruption has been a significant move towards mitigating the lukewarm attitude of the judiciary that had hitherto manifested itself," says Collier, noting that a special prosecutor is also needed to expedite corruption cases.

Gordon condemns the hiring of expatriate judges as "a waste of resources", and says that some of the funds given to the ACC would be better spent on strengthening the ability of the independent media and civil society to report on and otherwise expose corruption.

Scepticism about the effectiveness of the commission has also prompted a group of civil society activists to set up a parallel anti-corruption body known as the National Accountability Group (NAG).

"Our work is designed to complement that of the ACC. We don't see the ACC as totally independent of governmental influence and so we come in as watchdogs," spokesman David Tam-Baryoh told IPS.

He argues that the current procedure of sending cases to the office of the Attorney-General for prosecution should be done away with.

"There should be an independent investigator and an independent prosecutor. As long as there is political interference, then corruption cannot be dealt with dispassionately," says Tam-Baryoh.

Even President Kabbah acknowledges that some reforms are necessary to streamline the fight against graft in Sierra Leone.

"The problems faced by the Anti-Corruption Commission are many and varied. I expect that the commission would be the first to accept that there are still shortcomings to be addressed," he said recently.

While Sierra Leone is richly endowed with diamonds, bauxite and other resources, it is amongst the poorest countries in the world. According to the 2004 Human Development Report, published by the United Nations Development Programme, about 57 percent of the country's population lives below the poverty line of a dollar a day.

The civil war, precipitated by bad governance, was also fought over control of Sierra Leone's diamond deposits. In the process, widespread human rights violations occurred - with the RUF gaining infamy for its willingness to amputate the limbs of civilians.

A UN-backed court has been established in Freetown to try those accused of bearing the greatest responsibility for war crimes committed during the conflict.

The court alleges that former Liberian President Charles Taylor is the pre-eminent suspect in this regard, for the role he played in arming the RUF in exchange for diamonds.

Court officials have asked for Taylor's extradition from Nigeria where he was exiled in August last year after talks to end Liberia's own civil war. Their request has been denied.

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# Milosevic's Lawyers Seek to Quit Case

## Slobodan Milosevic's Court-Appointed Lawyers at the Hague Submit Applications to Leave the Case

*The Associated Press*

**Oct. 27, 2004** - AMSTERDAM, Netherlands AP) Slobodan Milosevic's court-appointed lawyers have asked to quit because they cannot properly defend an unwilling client, leaving the U.N. tribunal in a dilemma over how to conclude the most important war crimes trial in half a century in a way history will judge as fair.

Steven Kay and his assistant, Gillian Higgins, submitted applications to the tribunal's registrar late Tuesday seeking to withdraw from the case, said spokesman Jim Landale. They will remain as defense counsel until the tribunal removes them, he said.

Kay and Higgins "feel they are unable to fulfill their role for the defense of the accused according to the code of conduct for defense counsel," said a statement Wednesday from Kay's London office.

Kay has complained to tribunal panels in The Hague that his efforts to defend Milosevic have been stymied by his client's refusal to cooperate with him and by the difficulty in finding witnesses to testify.

Milosevic conducted his own defense for the first 30 months of the marathon trial. After repeated interruptions because of his fragile health, the judges removed him on Sept. 3, acting on the advice of doctors who warned his chronic high blood pressure could lead to a heart attack.

Kay, arguing on Milosevic's behalf to an appeals court last week, said self-representation was a fundamental right.

He also said Milosevic's refusal to cooperate with his defense team meant they could not mount an adequate case, and he said people were "kidding themselves, making believe that what is happening here is a proper defense."

Milosevic is accused of genocide and more than 60 other counts of war crimes and crimes against humanity during the breakup of Yugoslavia during the 1990s.

Kay's request to step aside leaves the court with only unattractive options.

It can insist that Kay stay. But dozens of Milosevic's witnesses have refused to come to The Hague unless the Serb leader regains control of the case. They would have to be subpoenaed and appear in court as hostile witnesses.

Milosevic's Belgrade lawyers, now acting as legal assistants and researchers, could be assigned to the case but would be unlikely to accept if Milosevic opposed the idea.

A third option would be to agree to Milosevic's demand.

Judith Armatta, of the independent Coalition for International Justice, said allowing Milosevic to represent himself again would only help him undermine the court's legitimacy which she said has been his goal all along.

"He is not now and never has been interested in defending himself. His objective is to destroy the tribunal," Armatta said. If the court accedes to his demand, "Mr. Milosevic will have won a very important round in his attempt to destroy the credibility of the tribunal."

Kay was assigned to the case in September, shortly after Milosevic gave his opening argument, in which he claimed he was being prosecuted for political reasons by his enemies, including the United States and other NATO countries.

Although the British barrister was given a four-week break in the trial to prepare witnesses, Kay found only four people to testify.


On Friday, the court announced a recess until Nov. 9 because the defense lacked witnesses.

Kay's frustration was evident as he argued to the appellate court to let Milosevic again conduct his defense. He said Milosevic's antagonism toward him was so great "that we are ineffective in this trial and we are unable to say we are acting in the interest of justice," Kay said.

"Right from the start we wanted to show ourselves willing, but we have driven ourselves into the sand," he said.

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*BBC Monitoring International Reports October 27, 2004*

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**BBC Monitoring** International Reports

**October 27, 2004**

**LENGTH:** 741 words

**HEADLINE:** REGIONAL MEETING ON NEW **ARMS REDUCTION** PROGRAMME  
BEGINS IN **NIGERIA**

**BODY:**

The United Nations, in collaboration with ECOWAS (Economic Community of West African States) and other development partners, today in Abuja, started a two-day meeting on a new ECOWAS **arms reduction** programme. This is in response to the new security and political challenges of the region. Ndamadu Sule has more.

(Sule) The new programme, ECOWAS Small Arms Control Programme (Ecosap), is expected to cost about 33m dollars and will replace the five-year-old Programme of Coordination and Assistance for Security and Development (PCASED).

The Abuja small arms stakeholders' meeting on Ecosap was adopted to address the devastating threat associated with trafficking in illicit weapons and the free flow of small arms within the west African subregion. The meeting will also seek international support for the smooth transition of PCASED to Ecosap.

In his statement, ECOWAS Executive Secretary Mohammed Ibn Chambas urged the participants to examine the new Ecosap programme.

(Chambas) Seek commitment from development partners for support for Ecosap, sensitize, network, and elaborate modalities for partnership building and broad-based support for Ecosap and lastly, review and adopt the revised TOR (Terms Of Reference) for the advisory board of Ecosap.

(Sule) Also, the assistant secretary general and UNDP regional director for Africa, Abdoulie Janneh, assured that UNDP would continue to support ECOWAS not only in the control of small arms and light weapons, but also in respect of other

development issues within the broader objective of achieving the millennium development goals. He said, following the promulgation of the UN programme of action on small arms and light weapons in 2001, UN had mobilized public opinion in confronting what the UN secretary general terms "weapons of mass destruction."

(Janneh) These small arms and light weapons that are used in conflicts in the region have **caused** mass displacement of people, dislocated economies, and established a culture of political instability.

(Sule) PCASED's five-year term came to an end this year, having been established by the heads of states and government of ECOWAS at their summit in Lome in 1999, almost immediately after the adoption of the ECOWAS moratorium on the importation, exportation, and manufacture of light weapons in November 1998. The secretary-general of ECOWAS said the moratorium, the first of its kind within the subregion, was to stem the systematic spread of small arms and light weapons, which is considered a serious threat to peace and security in West Africa. The moratorium has been adjudged as a huge success and it enjoyed assistance from UNDP and other partners. Over the five years of PCASED's existence, national commissions have been established in 13 out of the 15 ECOWAS member states with the **exception of Cote d'Ivoire and Liberia**. It is **aimed** at achieving the collection and destruction of about 35,000 out of an estimated 8 million units of arms circulating within the subregion, training of the armed forces and security forces, strengthening of border controls, review the harmonization of national legislations, and dialogue with arms producing and suppliers among others. According to Janneh, West Africa today stands at a crossroads.

(Janneh) We see encouraging signs of an emerging consensus for peace in the region. **Positive** developments in **Liberia, Sierra-Leone, and Cote d'Ivoire** as well as efforts at consolidating peace in the Mano River Union, generally give us the hope that we can proceed on a new road to peace and stability in the region. It is against this background of responding to the new security and political challenges of the region that we need to refocus PCASED to this imperative. The objective was to reposition the programme in a manner that most effectively responded to the needs and reality on the ground, provide better operational support, and build capacity for dealing with the problem of small arms in the region.

He added that ECOSAP would build the capacity of national commissions to develop national plans and establish partnerships with the network of UNDP country offices in the execution and implementation of the plans. Prominent among participants at the meeting are delegates from EU, UK, France, Switzerland, Norway, Netherlands, Japan, Canada, and Senegal. The meeting ends tomorrow.


Source: NTA TV, Abuja, in English 2000 gmt 25 Oct 04

) **BBC Monitoring**

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