

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



Prosecutor Stephen Rapp speaking before the cleaning at Koo Bay last Friday. See *today's Special Court Supplement* for more photos

**PRESS CLIPPINGS**

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

**as at:**

Monday, 29 September 2008

Press clips are produced Monday through Friday.  
Any omission, comment or suggestion, please contact  
Martin Royston-Wright  
Ext 7217

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Awoko

Monday, 29 September 2008

# Army gives Kroo Bay a facelift

By Samuel John

In a bid to change the image of the Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces (RSLAF), 'some members of the Army have embarked on a massive cleaning exercise at 'Samba Gutter' Kroo Bay, an exercise which is aimed at forestalling further flooding disaster.

The exercise which attracted the Defense Minister Palo Conteh, Chief of Defense Force Brigadier Alfred Nelson-Williams, officers and other ranks of the Military was done in conjunction with the Special Court.

Speaking to Awoko at the cleaning site, CDS Nelson-Williams noted that "our slogan is serving the nation, which we had done marvelously during the 11 year-old civil war, and now that peace has been attained, we should identify

ourselves with the problems facing the nation."

He went on to explain that all over world the "military has been at the receiving end through tax payers' money, and this cleaning exercise is a pleasant way to pay back the public.'

CDS Nelson-Williams also revealed that very soon he would be leading his officers, men and women of the force to render the necessary assistance to the Freetown City Council by cleaning cemeteries in the City. He disclosed that the military would also render the necessary assistance to the Freetown City Council as they embark on the reconstruction of the Regent Street Bridge which is a major link to Eastern Police vicinity.

The army engineers, he

said, would soon do the quantity survey for the City Council and also provide free labour, indicating that its pay back time for him and his troops.

In handing over the equipments to the CDS, the Special Court Prosecutor Stev Rapp confirmed that they are here to help the country in its post conflict development and to contribute to peace.

The Special Court Prosecutor observed that since the flooding occurred at Kroo Bay, consultations have been going between the court and the military to render the necessary assistance to the community.

Staff of the Special Court, he disclosed, contributed the sum of



Military personnel cleaning the "Samba" gutter last Friday, (Inset) Defence Minister Palo Conteh holding a shovel as he is being flanked by Special Court

Le3 million and it was used to purchase equipments like rakes, picks, head pans, shovels and machetes.

Adding his voice to the speeches before the cleaning exercise, Defense Minister Alfred Palo Conteh stated that the new SLA is development-oriented,

Prosecutor Stev Rapp reiterating the statement made by the CDS that they are ready to provide services to the people of Sierra Leone in order to transform their life style.

Commenting, the Deputy Prosecutor of the Special Court, Joseph F. Kamara noted that the move is to

sympathize with the flood victims and to enhance the court/community relations; while Patrick Fatoma of the Outreach section told the audience that the court is not only limited to judicial functions but also engage in Special Court Military assistance.

## Standard Times Online

Friday, 26 September 2008

### **Excerpts from address to the 63<sup>rd</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly by His Excellence DR. Ernest Bai Koroma, President of the Republic of Sierra Leone**

...The UN-backed Special Court for Sierra Leone, and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, have made extraordinary contributions in establishing the rule of law, and fighting against impunity so that the people of Sierra Leone can put their tragic past behind and look forward to the future. Without reconciliation, tolerance and the rule of law there can be no true and lasting peace.

The Special Court has established legal principles that will endure beyond its anticipated closure in 2010. I want to commend the efforts of the Special Court to engage both my Government and the international justice community to make preparations for any residual issues that might remain following its closure. The facilities of the Special Court in the heart of our historic capital Freetown will be inherited by Sierra Leone, and we will explore the best possible use for them.

[www.minbuza.nl/en/news/](http://www.minbuza.nl/en/news/)

Friday, 26 September

### **The Netherlands pledges extra support for the prosecution of Sierra Leonean war criminals**

The Netherlands will be making an extra 4.5 million euros available to the Special Court for Sierra Leone. This was announced yesterday by Minister of Foreign Affairs Maxime Verhagen, who is attending the General Assembly of the United Nations in New York

The Court is mandated to try those responsible for war crimes committed during the civil war that ravaged Sierra Leone between 1991 and 2002. Its trial of former Liberian president Charles Taylor marks an important step forward in the international fight against impunity.

At a meeting with President Ernest Bai Koroma of Sierra Leone, Prime Minister Jan Peter Balkenende and Mr Verhagen pledged their continued support for the Special Court. 'The Netherlands is a leading donor,' said Mr Verhagen. 'This reflects our commitment to eradicating impunity and upholding the international legal order.'

Punishing those responsible for war crimes is important in achieving the lasting resolution of conflicts such as the war in Sierra Leone. The Court's legal expertise will also benefit the administration of justice by the national courts.

## BBC World Service Trust

Friday, 26 September 2008

### Report from The Hague

The normal sitting of the Special Court for Sierra Leone in The Hague was disrupted on Friday by the excessive outpouring of grief by the Prosecution 45<sup>th</sup> witness testifying against Charles Taylor. On direct examination, the outspoken and dramatic story teller lost his concentration and speech and wept loudly.

BULL: Weeping and shrieking sound of witness

JUDGE: We'll adjourn temporarily to allow the witness to recover his composure.

CHEESEMAN: Emmanuel Bull, both Crime Based and Insider Witness, weeping over his condition when he surrendered to Nigerian ECOMOG on May 10, 1998 in Jaima Nimikoro, Kono District inside Sierra Leone during that country's civil war. Mr. Bull recovered from his grief after nearly one hour. He was first captured as a civilian, but later enlisted into the AFRC and RUF rebel forces as a fighter. Mr. Bull testified that he surrendered when he and 60 AFRC and RUF rebels fell in an ECOMOG ambush. Emmanuel said the rebels had gone on an operation code named Operation Clear The Way and No Living Thing. Mr. Bull told the court he was at the point of death when he surrendered to ECOMOG. He recalled that the civilians told ECOMOG to hand him over to them, but the peacekeepers refused.

Mr. Bull's cross-examination with Lead Defence Counsel Courtney Griffiths was shorter than one expected. Prosecution did its direct examination with Emmanuel for one and half days, but the cross examination lasted for just a few hours.

Mr. Griffiths cross-examination rested heavily on the relationship between witness Bull and two women only identified in court as A and B who were allegedly raped by the rebels. Mr. Griffiths said he detected inconsistency in the witness's testimonies, but Justice Julia Sebutinde came to the rescue of the witness.

GRIFFITHS: Both the names that you have written on that piece of paper, according to this paragraph, were connected to you in a certain way, that's right isn't it?

BULL: Yes, the other name is connected to me.

GRIFFITHS: Both of them, yes? But you didn't tell us that yesterday. Yesterday you told us it was only A that was connected to you. How did you forget that B was also connected to you?

BULL: I cannot forget that B is connected to me. I think I mentioned that everywhere in my statement.

JUDGE: Mr. Griffiths, to be fair to the witness, (indistinct) that this witness wrote- he wrote not only the full names of A and B, but also the relationship with A and B.

GRIFFITHS: Can I have a look at that?

JUDGE: To be fair to the witness, it does state the relationship with B to A.

CHEESEMAN: The prosecution 45<sup>th</sup> witness has completed his testimonies, and the 46<sup>th</sup> witness is expected to take the stand on Monday. According to the prosecution witness' list, there are 27 more live witnesses to be put on the stand.

Charlestaylortrial.org

Monday, 29 September 2008

### **Morning Session: Prosecution Witness TF1-173 Tamba Mondeh Takes the Stand**

Prosecutor Alan Werner made an application to rescind the pre-trial protective measures the new prosecution witness TF1-173 has been enjoying, the witness would like to testify in open Court.

The Defense does not oppose a general rescission but does not waive the right to challenge a rescinding application.

After having conferred the judges decided the witnesses' protective measures to be rescinded. The witness was sworn in and will be testifying in Kono. Prosecutor Alan Werner will examine the witness and Lead Defense Counsel Courtenay Griffiths will cross-examine the witness.

### **Background**

The name of witness TF1-173 is Tamba Mondeh, he lives in Motema, Kono, Sierra leon he speaks Kono and a little Krio, he is married and has four children.

### **Escaping the rebels**

At the time when the government of President Kabbah was ousted by the AFRC, the witness was living in Motema with his family. The rebels came and harassed people, so he fled with his family to a village in the bush called Sawako. They stayed there for a while but then moved to another village called Timbor, where he and his family also stayed for a while. From there they went to another village but Mondeh cannot remember the name of the village. They spent about three weeks there, the rebels came and caused destruction. From there they fled to Kangama Ngorama, where they stayed not very long. The witness saw a man there whose arms and neck were mutilated by the rebels.

ECOMOG soldiers in the village took this victim to Kenema hospital where he could be treated. A child of the witness, Sahr Mondeh fell ill and died in Kangama Ngorama. Later Mondeh heard that ECOMOG soldiers were in Ngaiama, Nimikoro and also in Bumpeh and Koidu. Whenever ECOMOG would capture a place, an announcement would come from Freetown. Then people would go there to be safe from the rebels. The witness and his family also went to Ngaiama, Nimikoro, then to Bumpeh and then to Motema. ECOMOG was there too. In Motema Mondeh and his family stayed in the house of Samuel Bull. A lot of civilians were in that house, a house under construction. Mondeh and his family and others were on the ground floor.

### **Attack by the rebels in Motema**

One day the witness and the other civilians were sleeping in the house and they heard whispering outside. The rebels had come. The house did not have a door, they used to block the door with a zink. When the civilians wanted to go outside the rebels told them to go back in the house. They returned into the house. The rebels outside said that the civilians did not want them, but ECOMOG and that therefore all civilians would be killed by their leader Fixobio. The witness was inside the house, but he could hear them say this. The witness knew Fixobio from the time he was doing diamond mining. The rebels went inside the house and took the civilians outside. The witness was inside and a rebel shot him in the chin/throat. He has a scar of about 9 cm going from his lower lip until his adam's apple as a result of that. Another man called Aiah and his young daughter were shot and died. After the shooting of the three of them all civilians were

brought outside and were told to queue. Outside the witness saw Fixobio face to face and he recognised him. Then the witness heard the sound of gunshots. The rebels were shooting, they broke people's legs, they broke people's arms, they killed people.

The witness's wife's foot was broken this way. His child too was shot in his shoulder. The witness himself fell down in a bush. He removed his shirt and tied it around his chin. Mondeh has witnessed the rebels set two houses on fire. Later ECOMOG soldiers arrive in an armoured car from Koikema. The rebels left and the ECOMOG soldiers came to the civilians. Later that day the witness went into Motema town and saw many corpses on the street. ECOMOG said that if the rebels would come, the civilians should not run, because the ECOMOG would take care to them. When he was in the hospital in Lebanon, Kono District, Mondeh heard from Samuel Bull, who visited him there, that 25 people were killed by the rebels on that day.

Later the wounded were transported from there in a vehicle to Makeni by ECOMOG. On the way to Makeni a man, who had been shot in his back, died. The wounded were brought to a hospital in Makeni where they were treated. The following morning ECOMOG returned to take the patients to Freetown to the Konot (spelling?) hospital where they received further treatment. The witness was in the hospital for a year for his chin. His jaw bone is not like it used to be as a result of what happened at the time in Motema.

Even while talking his chin and head hurt. He cannot work to take care of his family, he is a beggar. He is not able to work because of these injuries caused by the shooting of the rebels. He feels pain in his heart that he cannot take care of his family.

The Prosecution has no further questions and Court is adjourned for the mid-morning break 10 minutes early due to the absence of Lead Defense Counsel Griffiths who is on his way to Court and who will cross-examine the witness after the mid-morning break.



United Nations  Nations Unies

United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL)

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**UNMIL Public Information Office Complete Media Summaries  
26 September 2008**

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

**Newspaper Summary**

**Defense Ministry Vows Not to Rescind Decision on Dismissed Soldiers**

(New Democrat, The Inquirer, The Analyst, The Informer, The Parrot)

- The Ministry of National Defense has ruled out any possibility to reconsidering its decision to dismiss 16 soldiers of the Armed Forces of Liberia. The Ministry reaction follows a meeting the dismissed soldiers held with the Liberia Council of Churches (LCC) seeking the clergies' intervention in the matter. The soldiers were dismissed yesterday for what Defense authorities termed as "gross insubordination." Reports say "disenchanted" soldiers of the 23rd Infantry Battalion of the AFL on Wednesday protested their eviction from their air-cooled apartments. The relocation was intended to accommodate more than 500 of their colleagues who had graduated from the Sandi Ware military barracks at VOA.

**Liberia among Most Corrupt Nations in the World ...Cites Transparency Index**

(Public Agenda)

- [sic:] The latest rankings by the Berlin-based watchdog Transparency International (TI), released this week, ranks Liberia 42nd worst in a list of 180 countries on perceived levels of public-sector corruption, an improvement on its 2007 rank of 23rd worst but still showing numerous signs of widespread corruption. Transparency says this year's index "highlights the fatal link between poverty, failed institutions and graft." The ranking measures perceived levels of public sector corruption in 180 countries and draws on surveys of businesses and experts. Compounding the corruption issue is a report in the Christian Science Monitor, this week, headlined: Persistent corruption threatens Liberian stability: Despite President Johnson-Sirleaf's tough rhetoric on the international stage and the country's modest progress in global rankings, there is growing concern back home." The article cites among other issues, the ongoing Knuckles-Gate II saga, leading to the cancellation of the Western Cluster agreement and the censure in July of Richard Tolbert, head of the National Investment Commission. Tolbert was cited by lawmakers for illegally granting a tax waiver on a \$150 million investment deal.

**Bomb Discovered in Monrovia's Suburb**

(The Inquirer, The Informer)

- An unexploded mortar round believed to have been planted in Barnesville Estate, a suburb of Monrovia, was discovered and unearthed yesterday by soldiers of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL). The bomb was discovered near the newly constructed Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf Market opposite Area-B in Barnesville.
- The unexploded mortar round was unearthed by UNMIL soldiers from the Nigerian and Pakistani contingents following the discovery of the object by residents of the Estate. According to Mr. Patrick Russell, owner of the shop where the bomb was discovered, the object has been in front of his shop for several years but did not know whether it was an explosive. Mr. Russell who appeared relieve following the extraction of the mortar round from his shop said though he has been seeing the object at the front of his shop, he only took it to be a rusty iron.

**Senate Downplays Supreme Court's Decision....Fails to reinstate Suspended Pro-Temp**

(The Analyst, The Inquirer, Daily Observer, Heritage, National Chronicle, The News, Public Agenda)

- The media reports that what appears to be a clash between two branches of the Liberian government is gradually unfolding with the Liberian Senate attempting to ignore the ruling of the Supreme Court of Liberia to reinstate suspended Senate Pro temp Isaac Nyenabo. Justice in Chambers, Jamesetta H. Wolokolie Tuesday ruled in a writ of Prohibition filed to the Supreme Court by the National Democratic Party of Liberia (NDPL) and Senator Nyenabo who was suspended by his colleagues nearly two months ago.
- The Supreme Court at the time issued a stay order and ordered the Senate to return to status quo.
- The Senate however continue to conduct business after unanimously endorsing Senator Lahai Lassanah as acting Pro-tempore. Senator Nyenabo was recently suspended by a resolution of majority of his colleagues for what they described as "gross administrative ineptitude and political patronage."

### **Judge Blasts Journalists, Lawyers ...For Report over Kaine's Bail Issue**

(The Inquirer, Heritage, The News, Public Agenda)

- Criminal Court "B" Judge Korboi Nuta has sharply lashed out at journalists for misinforming the public regarding ongoing records of the trial of the case involving Senator Roland Kaine and others which has subsequently been suspended by the Justice in Chambers.
- "Let this go out as a warning to all journalists covering activities in our courts, that while we welcome their medium of informing the public, we think they should do so with the highest degree of professionalism and not allow themselves to be carried away by mere lawyers who are party to a case before any court to just have stories given them without doing all necessary verifications.
- The judge's dissatisfaction apparently grew out of what he termed as a misinterpretation of the court's proceeding during its 37th day sitting which delved into a motion for bail for the detained Senator Kaine. State lawyers later filed a prohibition petition to restrain Judge Korboi Nuta from admitting detained Margibi County Senator Roland Kaine to bail. In a 9-count petition, the prosecution said Judge Nuta proceeded wrongly by granting Kaine's application for bail and at the same time assigning the motion for hearing yesterday.

### **TRC Children Gallery Opens Tomorrow**

(Heritage, The Analyst)

- The Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) and the Ministry of Gender and Development in collaboration with the National Child Protection Network will on tomorrow Saturday launch the Children's TRC gallery.
- Addressing a news conference in Monrovia, the Executive Director of the Action for Greater Harvest (AGHRA), Dee Max Kermayahn said the gallery will be featuring arts, poems and stories of children on their experiences. He said the gallery will also bring together children from the counties expressing the memories of the past, challenges of the present and the hope for the future. TRC Commissioner, Oumou Sylla said the children need to be supported for the growth and development of their future.

## **Radio Summary**

**Star Radio** *(News monitored today at 10:00 am)*

### **New USAID Head Begins Tour of Duty**

- The newly appointed Mission Director of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Ms. Pamela White has begun her tour of duty in Liberia.
- Ms. White will direct the expanding mission and the implementation of the recently signed four assistance agreements with government.
- The over US\$80 million assistance package plus implementation of other projects brings the US assistance for Fiscal Year 2008 to over US\$103 million.

- Ms. White comes to Liberia from USAID Tanzania where she served since 2005 and helped the country received one of the largest grants of the Millennium Challenge Corporation.
- A USAID release says Ms. White ensure substantial growth of the mission including the start of the President's Malaria Initiative.
- She is also noted, for ensuring the growth of the largest President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief program.

*(Also reported on Truth F.M. and ELBC)*

### **Human Rights Watch Welcomes Chuckie Taylor's Trial**

- The New York-based Human Rights Watch says it welcomes the trial of the son of detained former President Charles in the United States.
- Charles MacArthur Taylor, Jr. commonly called Chuckie is to face trial for crimes he allegedly committed when his father was in power in Liberia.
- Human Rights Watch said the trial is significant as the first ever prosecution under a US law that makes it a crime to commit torture anywhere in the world.
- The group argued the trial is also significant as one of the first prosecutions for human rights abuses committed in Liberia in recent years.
- It hopes the case will spark increased focus in Liberia on the need for other prosecutions of the most serious human rights violations committed in Liberia.

*(Also reported on Truth F.M. and ELBC)*

### **Truth F.M.** *(News monitored today at 9:00 am)*

#### **Defense Ministry Appears Resolute on Dismissal of Soldiers**

#### **TRC Opens Children Gallery Saturday**

#### ***Head of Committee to Investigate E-mail Scandal Names Other Members***

- The Head of the special ad-hoc committee set up to investigate the e-mail scandal linking the presidency, Dr. Elwood Dunn has name members of the committee in consultation with President Sirleaf.
- Dr. Dunn named Sister Mary Laurene Browne, Rev. Dr. Herman Browne, and Ruth Doe as members. Others are Bill Frank Enoanyi, Prince Norman and Rev. Dr. James Sele.
- According to a release, the investigation will last for a period of three months and will be conducted nationally and internationally.
- The committee is expected to identify, retrieve and present forensic evidence to truth of falsity of the matter.
- Experts are expected to undertake computer forensic examination of the origin of the e-mail exchanges.

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# Special Court Supplement Outreach at Kroo Bay in Pictures

