

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, August 05, 2004

The press clips are produced Monday to Friday.
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Sierra Leone: Special Court Registrar Announces Resignation But Urged to Stay

UN Integrated Regional Information Networks

NEWS

August 4, 2004

Posted to the web August 4, 2004

Dakar

Robin Vincent, the man who set up Sierra Leone's international war crimes tribunal, has said he will stand down in the autumn but UN Secretary General Kofi Annan and several governments have begged him to reconsider, a court spokesman told IRIN on Wednesday.

Vincent, a British court administrator, was appointed two years ago by the United Nations and has presided over the construction of the Special Court, which was built from scratch to try those that bear the greatest responsibility for atrocities committed during Sierra Leone's brutal 10-year civil war.

Vincent's resignation comes at a time when the court is waiting for its budget for the final year of its three-year mandate to be approved and is examining ways to fund proceedings if they run past 2005.

A Western diplomat in the capital Freetown told IRIN Vincent had felt frustrated.

"I think he felt he wasn't getting the support he needed from some quarters," the diplomat said. "It's no secret that he was finding it difficult to run the court given the uncertainty of not having guaranteed finances."

Special Court spokesman Peter Andersen said Vincent had signalled his intention to leave during a senior staff meeting in July, saying he would go in three months time.

"He's been prevailed upon by the Secretary General, the Sierra Leonean government, the British government and others, who have all asked him to reconsider," Andersen added.

The Western diplomat said he was hopeful Vincent would change his mind.

Sierra Leone's Special Court went into the history books as the first international war crimes tribunal to sit U.N.-appointed international judges alongside local judges at a court in the country where the atrocities took place.

It aimed to deliver justice cheaper and faster than tribunals for Rwanda and Bosnia and quickly indicted 11 people.

But funding has remained a key frustration. Just 33 of the 191 UN member countries had provided funds for Special Court, and pledges made for the court's third year had had to be brought forward to cover the second year of operations.

Court officials say the budget for the Special Court's final year is in the region of \$28 million, bringing the total cost for its three-year mandate to \$80 million -- some \$40 million less than is needed to run the

Rwanda war crimes tribunal for just one year.

Trials of government militia leaders from the Civil Defence Forces began in Freetown in June but then adjourned so that the leaders of the rebel group Revolutionary United Front could appear in the dock in July.

The third group of indictees from the Armed Forces Revolutionary Council, a military junta that ruled Sierra Leone from May 1997 to March 1998, is still awaiting trial because judges need to be recruited for the second chamber.

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Gibril Massaquoi To Be Granted Asylum In Canada

Gibril Massaquoi was not indicted by the Special Court, because the court believes he could serve as a key witness against the three RUF men currently on trial. Recently in Kono, an ex-RUF fighter who was un-

der the command of Gibril Massaquoi, revealed how the latter led the attack on Kambia in which scores of school children were abducted and conscripted into the rebel army, about 50 civilians killed during the attack and catholic nuns raped. The Special Court knows all of this but decided to grant Massaquoi immunity from prosecution on the condition that helps with the prosecution's case. He is not going to be a reli-

able witness because in the last days of the RUF his relationship with Issa Sesay was strained after he teamed up with comen to rob Issa off US\$ 120,000 paid out in two installment on the pretext that the men have vehicles for sale that were down at the Port waiting to be cleared.

When pressure was mounted on him, he surfaced in Freetown and made an eight page statement to the C.I.D.

Now, he stands the chance of being granted asylum in Canada if after testifying in court, he feels his life is threatened. This agreement, we have been told, has already been signed.

Independent Observer

Thursday August 05, 2004

Wan Touch

With Joseph Komeh

The Special Court of Sierra Leone (SCSL), which was established following an agreement signed between the government of Sierra Leone and the United Nations on the 16th January 2002, has been conducting its trials at the Trial Chambers of the new court-house here in Freetown. But the court is now on a three-weeks judicial break. The court, an International body that is independent of any government or organisation, was established to try those who bear greatest responsibility for war crimes and crimes against humanity committed in Sierra Leone after the signing of the Abidjan Peace Accord on the 30th November 1996. The actual birth of the SCSL came into being when its first staff arrived in Freetown in July 2002,

which saw subsequent developments like construction of court buildings, statement taking, and now trials amongst other things.

A statement of the UN Secretary General Kofi Annan on the swearing in of the eight judges, three of whom were appointed by the government of Sierra Leone, described the court as the first step on the path to combating impunity and addressing accountability for the shocking crimes committed in Sierra Leone. The UN scribe explained further that it was indeed the Security Council that by way of Resolution 1315 of 14th August 2000 which requested him to negotiate an agreement with the government to create an independent Special Court. In that Resolution, the Security Council reaffirmed that per-

Special Court For Sierra Leone Of Two Years Operation And Two Months Trials

sons who commit or authorize serious violations of international humanitarian law are individually responsible and

doing very little or nothing to exert pressure on the Nigerian government which, in flagrant violation of its obligations un-

(but how I wish to be wrong).

The ghosts of the thousands murdered walk among us. The tears of the maimed, the mutilated and the violated; their families, our towns and villages, districts and country indeed ask for the bringing to book those who commit the 'greatest crimes' against the people of Sierra Leone. As I write, eleven people stand indicted. All but two of the indictees - Charles Taylor and Johnny Paul Koroma - are in the custody of the Special Court in Freetown. The nine now standing trial, though individually charged, have been grouped into three separate trials. The trials for CDF indictees, consisting of Chief Sam Hinga Norman, Monina Efanah and Allieu

Kondewa, commenced on June 3, whilst that of the RUF, consisting of Morris Kallon, Augustine Gbao and Issa Sesay, began on July 5, 2004. The AFRC trial of Alex Tamba Brima, Santigie Borbor Kanu (55) and Brima Bazy Kamara is due to commence in September.

The bottom line of this whole UN backed court is that it cannot impose the death penalty as a military tribunal will do but is otherwise limited in deciding the length of sentences. It may however order convicted defendants to serve sentences outside the country, possibly on another continent, and may also order forfeiture of any proceeds of their crimes.

It Pays To advertise

The court, an International Body that is independent of any government or organisation, was established to try those who bear greatest responsibility for war crimes and crimes against humanity committed in Sierra Leone

accountable for those violations, relying on the international standards of justice, fairness and due process of law. Ironically though, the international community is

der international law, is betraying Sierra Leonean victims by openly shielding former Liberian President Charles Taylor who is the court's first indictee

The New Storm

Thursday August 05, 2004

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Security Council urges States to cooperate with UN war crimes tribunals

4 August 2004 – With United Nations war crimes tribunals for Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia processing cases amid severe budget shortfalls, the Security Council today urged States support this effort and called on the courts to complete their work by 2010.

Ambassador Andrey I. Denisov of the Russian Federation, which holds the Council's rotating presidency for August, read out a [statement](#) reaffirming support for the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR).

He encouraged the two tribunals to meet the Council's completion strategy, which calls for the [ICTR](#) and [ICTY](#) to wind up their investigations by the end of this year, finish all trials at the first instance by 2008, and complete all work by 2010.

Welcoming recent commitments by the new Government in Serbia and Montenegro to cooperate with the [ICTY](#), Mr. Denisov said all States should comply, particularly Serbia and Montenegro, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the Republika Srpska within Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Many of these States have at-large indictees, and the statement named former Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic, former Bosnian Serb general Ratko Mladic and former Croatian general Ante Gotovina.

Referring to the [ICTR](#), Mr. Denisov called for Rwanda, Kenya, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and the Republic of the Congo as States to intensify their cooperation, and named the former businessman Felicien Kabuga as an indictee that should be brought before the court.

The statement also said the failure of some UN Member States to pay dues was "having a disruptive effect" on the work of the tribunals. Currently, [ICTY](#) has a budget shortfall of over \$81.6 million while the [ICTR's](#) funding gap tops \$50 million.

UNMIL Daily Media Summary

Wednesday, 4 Aug 2004

Taylor Agrees to War Crimes Trial in Liberia

(Heritage)

- Quoting “credible diplomatic sources” in Nigeria, Heritage reported that former President Charles Taylor has consented to appear before a United Nations-backed war crimes court if the trial were to take place in Liberia.

JOHNNY PAUL

KOROMA

RESURFACES IN

MAKENI

Paul Koroma was drinking a coke soft drink in the veranda of the house he was sitting in Rogbane

Road; very relaxed... The story continues... that Johnny Paul Koroma, according to what he, reportedly uttered, entered Sierra Leone Wednesday, Cont'd page 6

According to THE ADVOCATE'S, are investigative reporter, based in Makeni. Johnny Paul Koroma, was seen on the night of Saturday, July 31 2004, in a house on Rogbane Road, Makeni,



Johnny Paul Koroma

dressed in a long black gown and cap on his head. This paper's are investigative reporter reportedly said that Johnny

THE FUGITIVE Special Court for Sierra Leone indicted, Johnny Paul Koroma, has stealthily entered Sierra Leone, according to our Northern Providence intelligence network.

JOHNNY PAUL

From front page

July 28, of this year, by way of North Western Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea, crossed into Sierra Leone on the Guinea-Sierra Leone border at Kono; then proceeded to Koinadugu District, and finally landed in Bombali District; at Binkolo and eventually, in a village called Mebonkani, where he Johnny Paul Koroma, reportedly confessed he was taking cover.

He, Johnny Paul Koroma, reportedly allegedly boasted

that it was just a matter of time, for the operation... "no more Special Court for Sierra Leone" to be launched; that he is a professional soldier,

and that only when he is dead, that those who are pursuing him will have respite. Fearing detection, our ace investigative reporter vanished.

The Advocate

Tuesday August 3, 2004

04/08/2004



Press Release SC/8163

Security Council
5016th Meeting (AM)

SECURITY COUNCIL, IN PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT, STRONGLY URGES YUGOSLAVIA, RWANDA TRIBUNALS TO KEEP COMPLETION STRATEGIES ON TRACK

Tribunals Aim to Finish Trials by 2008; Council Stresses Member State Cooperation Mandatory, Essential

The Security Council, in a presidential statement today, strongly urged the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda to remain on track to meet the target dates of their completion strategies.

The Hague (Netherlands)-based Yugoslavia Tribunal and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, are to complete investigations by the end of 2004, end trials by 2008, and close down before the end of 2010. (For more background information, see Press Release SC/8138 of 29 June.)

In the statement, read out by Council President Andrey I. Denisov (Russian Federation), the Council stressed that the full cooperation of all States with the Tribunals was an essential element in realizing the completion strategies. In that regard, the Council took careful note of the assessments of the level of cooperation by the authorities of Serbia and Montenegro and the Republika Srpska, within Bosnia and Herzegovina, with the Yugoslavia Tribunal. The Council called on all States, in particular Serbia and Montenegro, Croatia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina -- including the Republika Srpska -- to intensify cooperation with the Tribunal, particularly in apprehending Radovan Karadzic, Ratko Mladic and all other such indictees.

The Council also called on all States, especially Rwanda, Kenya, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Republic of the Congo, to intensify cooperation with the Rwanda Tribunal, including on investigations of the Rwandan Patriotic Army and efforts to apprehend Felicien Kabuga and all other such indictees.

The Council, according to the statement, noted with concern that the shortfall in financial contributions from Member States had a disruptive effect on the work of the Tribunals.

The meeting started at 10:06 a.m. and adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Presidential Statement

The full text of presidential statement S/PRST/2004/28 reads, as follows:

"The Security Council takes note of the letter dated 21 May 2004 from the President of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 (ICTY) addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2004/420).

"The Security Council also takes note of the letter dated 30 April 2004 from the President of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and

Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 (ICTR) addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2004/341).

"The Security Council thanks the Presidents and Prosecutors of the ICTY and ICTR for these assessments requested by its resolution 1534 (2004), as supplemented by their oral reports at the 4999th meeting of the Security Council on 29 June 2004.

"The Security Council reaffirms its support for the ICTY and the ICTR and welcomes the efforts of both Tribunals to carry out their Completion Strategies. The Council strongly encourages the Tribunals to undertake every effort to ensure that they remain on track to meet the target dates of the Completion Strategies.

"The Security Council stresses that the full cooperation of all States with the Tribunals is not only a mandatory obligation of all States under its resolutions 827 (1993) and 955 (1994) and the Statutes of the Tribunals, but also is an essential element in realizing the Completion Strategies. In this regard, the Council takes careful note of the assessments presented with respect to the level of cooperation by the authorities of Serbia and Montenegro and the Republika Srpska within Bosnia and Herzegovina with the ICTY. We welcome as well the commitments made by the new government in Serbia regarding cooperation with the ICTY. The Council takes note of developments in Croatian and Rwandan cooperation with the ICTY and ICTR, respectively.

"The Security Council reiterates its call on all States, especially Serbia and Montenegro, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and on the Republika Srpska within Bosnia and Herzegovina, to intensify cooperation with and render all necessary assistance to the ICTY, particularly to bring Radovan Karadzic and Ratko Mladic, as well as Ante Gotovina and all other such indictees to the ICTY.

"The Security Council reiterates its call on all States, especially Rwanda, Kenya, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the Republic of the Congo, to intensify cooperation with and render all necessary assistance to the ICTR, including on investigations of the Rwandan Patriotic Army and efforts to bring Felicien Kabuga and all other such indictees to the ICTR.

"The Security Council notes with concern that the shortfall in financial contributions from Member States is having a disruptive effect on the work of the Tribunals and urges Member States to fulfil their commitments in a timely manner.

"The Security Council emphasizes the importance of the referral of cases involving lower and intermediate rank accused to competent national jurisdictions in achieving the Completion Strategies, and recalls the provisions of its resolutions 1503 (2003) and 1534 (2004), including the call for assistance to ensure the success of this effort.

"The Security Council also notes the concerns expressed by the President of the ICTY on the effect the expiry of the terms of Permanent Judges may have on case management and takes note of the letter of 15 July 2004 from the Acting Legal Counsel bringing forward an invitation to Member States to submit nominations for Permanent Judges of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia before 13 September 2004.

"The Security Council encourages further dialogue between the Tribunals and its Working Group on matters of mutual concern.

"The Security Council will remain seized of the matter."

* * * * *

Sierra Leone to host mini summit on Ivory Coast

FREETOWN, Aug 3 (AFP) - Sierra Leone President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah is to host on Friday his counterparts from Mali, Ivory Coast and Burkina Faso at a one-day "peace-building meeting" to resolve problems stemming from the current unrest in Ivory Coast.

Presidential spokesman Kanji Daramy told reporters Tuesday that Ivory Coast's Laurent Gbagbo, Amadou Toumani Toure of Mali, and Blaise Compaore from Burkina Faso were expected in Freetown to "harmonize the political differences that have threatened to disrupt the traditional friendly ties between them as a result of the current unrest in Ivory Coast."

All four leaders participated in a marathon two-day summit in the Ghanaian capital last week that produced an agreement and timetable for reconciling the divided Ivory Coast, the world's top cocoa producer and a crucial linchpin for troubled west Africa.

The agreement mandates a return to government of opposition ministers, including three sacked by Gbagbo, sets a date by which disarmament is supposed to begin and aims to address the long-standing question of who is eligible to run for president, ahead of elections set for October 2005.

Kabbah, whose country has recently emerged from a decade of civil war considered among the most brutal in modern history, has begun to take a more active role in regional politics, mindful of the potentially destabilizing effect further chaos in Ivory Coast could have on Sierra Leone.

"I went in there and lectured them very sternly," he told AFP in Accra on Friday when asked what he thought he could contribute to dialogue about resolving Ivory Coast's 22 months of crisis, spawned in September 2002 by a failed coup that plunged the country into civil war.

"Nobody wants a repeat of what happened in Sierra Leone."

Independent Observer

Thursday August 05, 2004

UNAMSIL
Force
Commander,
Maj-Gen.
Sajjad Akram



UNAMSIL Hands Over Eastern Province

Security in the eastern province is now the responsibility of the Sierra Leone Police and Army after the formal handing over of security primacy by UNAMSIL yesterday. The

ceremony took place in Kenema.

A high powered delegation from Freetown which included the Deputy Minister of Defence, Joe Blell,

UNAMSIL Force Commander, Maj-Gen. Sajjad Akram, who is also acting SRSG as the substantive holder, Mr. Daudi Mwakawago is on leave, witnessed the ceremony which

took place the Kenema Town Field.

As a result of this, UNAMSIL forces in part of this region will begin pulling out and are not going to be replaced, its Military spokesman said yesterday morning on RADIO UNAMSIL.

The next handing over of security is Freetown schedule for September.

1,000 soldiers to be discharged

The restructuring programme of the Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces (RSLAF), which is aimed at downsizing the military, has commenced with another 1,000 soldiers

to be discharged on the 31st January 2006 through compulsory selections. In sensitising the soldiers about the restructuring, the Deputy Chief of Defence Staff- Brigadier Nelson-Williams conducted

a comprehensive briefing at Brigade level and was attended by Battalion and Unit Commanders. At this briefing, they were sensitised on the discharge process for further transmission to all soldiers on the ground. According

to the Public Relations Department of Defence Ministry, the sensitisation process, which includes briefing on their financial and resettlement package, is necessary at this time because the

selected individuals for the process, requires twelve months notice to be identified by November this year. This process will include personnel in

specialist units as requested; to enable a more balanced structure to come out within the units. Also, only soldiers who are posted to these units

Contd. Page 2

1,000 soldiers to be discharged

From Front Page

without any qualified training will be considered. The Retirement Board will have to make the decision as to which soldier should retire compulsorily. The Chief of Defence Staff- Major General Sam M'boma stressed on the importance of the restructuring process as without it, there would be no financial bedrock for future improvement in the RSLAF.

He maintained the process would have a major positive impact on the military including promotions and improved terms and condition of service. Personnel who are entitled to apply for the said compulsory retirement will include Infantry, Private, Infantry Corporal and Specialists attached without professional training or qualification. Apart from the gratuity and

pension that would be paid, the discharged personnel would also be entitled to a year's salary and allowance at the end of January 2006 and the sum of two million Leones to assist in re-integration into civilian life. Also, they would be entitled to a six-month training course in the value of Le500,000 and transportation for the personnel and family after retirement.

Awoko

Thursday, August 05, 2004

GUINEA NOW EYES KOINDU



Salone's Kabbah



Guinea's Conte

Agency Report

The Secretary General of the Civil Society Movement (CSM) Charles Mambu has quoted a Guinean Commander in the disputed village of Yenga as saying that they awaiting instructions to occupy Koindu, the famous international trading centre in the Kailahun district.

further quoted the Guinean Commander as telling him during his recent visit to the town. According to Mr. Mambu, most of the inhabitants of Yenga especially the youths have abandoned the town because of the inhuman treatment meted out to them by the occupying forces.

He said he held a brief meeting with elders during his visit at which some youths most of whom are ex-combatants vowed to remove Guinean forces from the soil of Yenga if the Sierra Leone Government does not want to do so. He said that the elders in the Yenga community are disappointed and are blaming the government of Sierra Leone for doing very little to address their plight.

The civil society activist also described the occupying forces in Yenga as being heavily armed and in their numbers. Mr. Mambu went on to explain that women are not allowed to move freely in the area.

"They cannot do anything without the approval of the occupying forces. They cannot go to their bushes or fetch from the stream", he said, adding that those who fail to seek the consent of the occupying forces are arrested, molested and imprisoned.

Mr. Mambu further told the BBC: "I heard these stories from the women and children and I saw it myself because when I entered the town together with other human rights activists we were not allowed to gain access to the town except after a lot of apologies", he said.

Yenga was occupied by the Guinean forces in 1998 to prevent the former RUF rebels from attacking territories in Guinea. Meanwhile, a delegation from Sierra Leone headed by the Minister of Internal Affairs George Banda-Thomas is presently in Guinea to hold discussions with the authorities aimed to resolve the impasse.

Speaking on BBC Focus on Africa yesterday, Mr. Mambu also quoted the commander as blaming journalists, civil society and human rights activists for misinforming the world about the conditions and ownership of Yenga. "Yenga belongs to Guinea", Mr. Mambu

SEE BACK PAGE

Salone Times

Thursday August 05, 2004

GUEST WRITER

From last edition

About twenty personnel completed training in generator maintenances and other engineering techniques organized by the Nepalese. Both the Nepalese and Bangladeshi have been instrumental in providing transportation facilities to the site.

As at the time of this Report, the military has completed the construction of one block for other ranks, a guardroom and five company offices. The administrative building still awaits furniture. Construction of the senior non-commissioned officers quarters is yet to commence whilst the Nepalese earlier constructed motor tracks.

The RSLAF did not only concentrate on the construction of the 6th Battalion Barracks alone, they are also working towards rebuilding their strained relationship with the people of Moyamba. To achieve this, it is reported that the military regularly organize football gala and other sporting events between themselves and the civilians. During the last Christmas festival, for instance, the military allowed the civilians use their make shift camp as an outing resort. Most remarkably towards enhancing a positive and perfect civil-military relationship in Moyamba was the construction of a football field by the military, which they donated to the people of Moyamba as a contribution to the post-war reconstruction and development exercise in the country. This is perhaps the most spectacular contribution of the RSLAF to national development in recent times especially so for the people of Moyamba.

CONSTRAINTS

Like any other project of this nature, the construction of the 6th Battalion Army Garrison in Kaiyamba Chiefdom, Moyamba District is not free from problems.

The project, which commenced in October of last year, should have been complete before the end of April this year. The six-month time line set for the project has long elapsed with virtually little progress made. As already stated above, out of the proposed structures only one block for other ranks, a guardroom and five company offices and the administrative building have been complete as at the time of this Report. The administrative building still awaits furniture to be placed in it. This is a fraction of the total project itself. Construction of the senior non-commissioned officers quarters and thirty single buildings for senior officers is yet to commence. Though progress is being made, the whole exercise itself is moving at a snail's pace.

This situation, according to those interviewed, is due to the unavailability of the required machinery for the effective implementation of the project. The soldiers themselves, without any machinery to support their efforts, do the whole construction exercise manually. This situation has greatly affected the fast progress of the project. There are no tractors, no digging machines and transport facilities. Soldiers have to carry two bricks each for a distance of about five hundred meters from the construction site. There is no sufficient water supply. Though the Bangladeshi and Nepalese are supplying water with their tanks to the soldiers, these

supplies are inadequate for the volume of work and activity being undertaken in a hundred and fifty acres of land.

Similarly, the geographical location of the "Operation Pebu" green field site maybe strategically placed but it is a bit isolated from the town thereby making movements to and from the site difficult. This serves as an impediment to the

Like any other project of this nature, the construction of the 6th Battalion Army Garrison in Kaiyamba Chiefdom, Moyamba District is not free from problems

progress of the work especially when needed materials have to be transported from the town. Worst of all, there are no vehicles set aside to facilitate such movements. Adversely, these have also contributed in the slow progress of the construction.

Again, projects of such volume require the expertise of an advanced and specialized contractor to undertake the supervision of such an exercise. Though it is designed to engage soldiers help experts build their future dwellings, there was nothing like the presence of an expert at the "Operation Pebu" Green Field Site in Moyamba as at the time of this Report.

Building A Broken Relationship: The Military in post-war Sierra Leone

The whole exercise was undertaken exclusively by the RSLAF under the directives of a Sierra Leonean Military Officer, who went for a two months crash course in the United States to study basic construction planning and supervising. It is indisputable that an exercise of this nature requires an old hand individual contractor capable to undertake such a voluminous project.

A two months training is insufficient for a construction of this nature.

This is clearly manifest in the types of structures already constructed at the site. Besides, the military complain of not receiving the adequate or required supplies from government for the completion of the project. Therefore, the whole exercise is becoming one solely undertaken by the RSLAF with the International Military Advisory Training Team (IMATT) and the government claiming an empty success in the whole affair.

EFFECTS

In effect, however, the idea of engaging the military help experts build their future quarters appears laudable but its success and productivity is very unlikely if the whole exercise is left exclusively at the hands and feet of the military alone. It is important in the sense that, this makes the military to realise and recognize its role and responsibility to national development.

Despite current setbacks or maybe hitches in the whole exercise, "Operation Pebu" is strategically in place.

It may go a long way in restoring confidence on the Army and help rebuild their shaky relationship with the civilian population. This might even be more important in areas like Moyamba where civil-military relationship was gravely sordid and moribund during the war.

RECOMMENDATIONS

But in order to enhance the smooth implementation and completion of this exercise, a well-trained and experienced Contractor should be contracted and charged with the responsibility of supervising and/or directing the procedures and methods of construction. In the like manner, a special and independent supplier should be assigned with the task of providing the required implements and materials needed in the execution of the exercise.

A thorough and independent assessment of the work should regularly be undertaken, and government needs to establish an independent supervisor to oversee the implementation process of the project. Transportation facilities and machinery - vehicles, tractors, caterpillars and tippers - need to be made available to enhance the speedy completion of the project. Regardless of these, however, government will be beating more than what to chew. **A Research undertaken by The Africanist Movement-Sierra Leone.

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africanistmovement

Le30 billion destroyed to print Le10,000 notes

By Abdul Karim Koroma

Central Bank Governor James David Rogers revealed Wednesday at the celebration of the bank's 40th anniversary and launching of the new Le10,000 and Le500.00 notes and coins respectively that in order to print the new currency the bank destroyed Le30 billion.

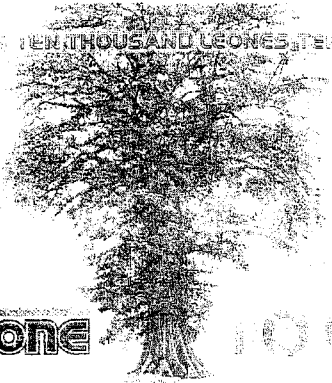
He said that "the bank in line with the gross domestic product growth of 6% has projected that Le22 billion of the new denomination currency will be introduced into the economy as part of the bank's currency management programme and clean note policy in 2004."

Rogers noted that the Le10,000 bank note is of a more modern design incorporating the most sophisticated security features than that of the bank series currency currently in circulation. He explained that the most striking image of a dove carrying an olive branch and the cotton tree are very much visible features on the new Le10,000 note.

The issuing of the Le500 denomination, according to the Governor, is the most effective method of meeting the requirements of the public in their transaction. He said the Le10,000

Continued page 3

Sierra Leone



Le30 billion destroyed

bank note is the 13th in the family of currency notes, launched and circulated since the bank was established 40 years ago.

President Kabbah who was in attendance at the launching ceremony said the naming of the bank's new complex, as Sam Bangura

building is a clear manifestation of the achievement, which the former bank Governor made. He described him as a nationalist and patriot who has sacrificed a lot for the country. "Sam Bangura is a living testimony," he said.

Concord Times

Thursday, August 05, 2004