

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



“Life”. Photographer: Ray Cardinal

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, 8 September 2008

Press clips are produced Monday through Friday.
Any omission, comment or suggestion, please contact
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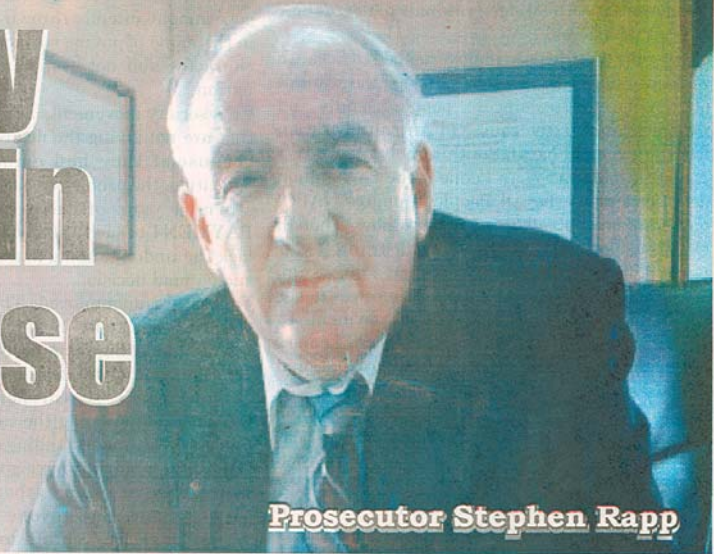
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Concord Times
Monday, 8 September 2008

Conspiracy irrelevant in Taylor's case

Chief Prosecutor

See story on page 4



Prosecutor Stephen Rapp

Local News

By Olusegun
Ogundeji

Prosecutor at the Special Court has told Concord Times that international conspiracy against former Liberian president Charles Taylor, who is being tried

Conspiracy irrelevant in Taylor's case - Chief Prosecutor

for war crimes at The Hague, was irrelevant to his trial.

Stephen Rapp said: "Whether Taylor is guilty of embezzlement during the Doe government; whether he broke out of jail on his own or was

helped...that's not relevant to the crime. That's not, in our view, a material issue. The issue was Charles Taylor responsible for atrocities in Sierra Leone?"

He added that though a variety of issues

mentioned may say something about how Taylor came to be who he was and could therefore serve a kind of smokescreen if they could not prove that he committed war crimes in Sierra Leone trial judges would not look at them.

"My enemies are nasty people, is not a defence. Some people don't like me in the world is not a defence. Some people love me is not a defence. It doesn't make any difference at all to our case," Rapp said.

This dialogue with the prosecutor came in the

wake of a revelation made last week by former warlord on the war in Liberia, Prince Johnson, while testifying before the country's truth and reconciliation commission.

Johnson told the hearing that the United States (US) released Taylor from jail in 1985 to engineer the overthrow of President Samuel Doe contrary to widespread report that Taylor escaped from a US jail to return to Liberia.

To Johnson's claim, Rapp said: "I don't know if what Prince Johnson said is true or not. I'm

skeptical about that."

Earlier, there have been reports that the US and United Kingdom, the major financiers of the Special Court, conspired to incarcerate and silence Taylor because he constituted a security threat to both nations.

In April over 50 journalists from Sierra Leone and Liberia, who gathered at a training programme in Monrovia on reporting the ongoing trial, had a lengthy debate on the issue of a conspiracy against Taylor.

Concord Times
Monday, 8 September 2008

Taylor was problem to disarm RUF

- witness tells court

*By Joseph
Cheeseman*

A witness at the trial of the former Liberian president Charles Taylor has told the Special Court in The Hague that Mr Taylor was the reason there was a glitch in disarming RUF rebels in 2000 leading to the taking hostage of the hundreds of UN peacekeepers and killing of some civilians protesters in Freetown in May of that year.

Answering to a cross-examination by prosecution lawyer Brenda Hollis, the insider witness said Mr Taylor instructed the leadership of the RUF not to disarm in certain parts of Sierra Leone. He quoted the RUF interim leader, Issa

Sesay as saying that the then Liberian leader was planning to invade Guinea.

"[Issa] said he got an instruction from Charles Taylor that he should organise the troops to enter Guinea through Pamelap" the witness said; adding that they should enter the country by Kissidougou using the Kono axis in the east and not through Koinadugu in the north. Mr Taylor allegedly wanted the RUF to send manpower to Foya under the command of Benjamin Yeaten "to be able to join the other forces who were there to enter through Gueckedou."

A Guinean Special Forces commander identified as General

Bah was to lead the operation into Guinea along with Benjamin Yeaten, he went on.

The witness also testified that Foday Sankoh turned down an offer by some Ukrainian mercenaries to assist the RUF in its war, saying he would only accept assistance from his "brother", Charles Taylor.

A female witness only identified as TF1-585 is now testifying against Charles Taylor.

She is testifying in Krio from behind a shield. Her voice is distorted beyond recognition. She said there was a radio communication link between RUF-controlled areas in Sierra Leone and Taylor's administration in Liberia.

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Obasanjo implicated at war crimes court

*By Joseph
Cheeseman in The
Hague*

The war crimes trial of Charles Taylor has made another big revelation of the mediatory role of some ECOWAS leaders in the Sierra Leone conflict and its impact on Mr Taylor and the rebel RUF.

Testifying from behind a shield with his voice distorted for security reasons, the insider witness of the prosecution named the former Nigerian president Olusegun Obasanjo as the man who encouraged the relationship between Taylor and the former rebel outfit.

He said that at a July 26 2002 meeting in Monrovia, President Obasanjo praised the relationship between Taylor and the RUF urging the RUF delegation to keep up the relationship with Mr. Taylor.

"He...told [the RUF] that they were to continue with the good relationship that they had with Charles Taylor... because Charles Taylor was doing good things to them" he quoted

Obasanjo as saying, adding that the then Nigerian leader continued, "If Africa could only get ten of his [Taylor's] type, then the unity Africa is fighting for, they would be able to achieve it."

The witness said the Gambian leader Yahyah Jammeh, also in the meeting, thanked the RUF delegation, saying it was Mr Taylor who had invited them to talk to the RUF delegation for a new leadership to be able to continue with the peace process in Sierra Leone.

The witness said that after the meeting with the four African leaders, Taylor separately sent for Issa Sesay and two other members of the RUF delegation at about midnight on the same day and told them not to take advice from "British-controlled leaders."

He allegedly told the new RUF leader Issa that the West African leaders he had met with earlier were British-elected presidents remote-controlled from London and he should not listen to them. He urged the RUF boss to

agree to requests to disarm only in word and not in action.

The witness said Charles Taylor gave Issa US\$ 15,000 that night and promised continual support to the RUF before the RUF delegation boarded Taylor's Anti-Terrorist Unit helicopter and flew back to Foya in Lofa County and then drove into Sierra Leone with arms and ammunition which included a few AK rifles, G3 guns, RPG rockets and ammunition. Also some bags of rice and about four drums of diesel.

However, the witness said Issa stopped taking instructions from Mr Taylor after the Liberian leader advised him not to give in to UN Force Commander Daniel Opaté's request to disarm children under arms known as the Small Boys and Girls' Units. He said he heard Issa grumbling that Taylor had given peace to Liberia and he was now president but he didn't want Sierra Leone to have peace.

*Courtesy: BBC
World Service Trust*

BBC World Service Trust

Saturday, 6 September 2008

Ukraine, ULIMO armed RUF

By Joseph Cheeseman in The Hague

The Defence Team in the trial of the former Liberian president, Charles Taylor seems to be making headway in its stride to shift allegations of arms supply to the former Sierra Leonean rebel group, the RUF from their client to other groups.

Under cross-examination a witness affirmed that the RUF got ammunition from another Liberian rebel group the United Liberian Movement (ULIMO).

The Defence successfully led the 37th prosecution witness to admit that the RUF and their allies the Armed Forces Revolutionary Council (AFRC) also received arms from Ukraine.

The insider witness admitted to Defence Lawyer, Terry Munyard that arms supplied to the AFRC and the RUF by the Ukrainians were negotiated by the then military junta leader Johnny Paul Koroma. He said the Ukrainians dropped the arms and ammunition from a helicopter at the Magburaka airstrip in the north of Sierra Leone. He said the Ukrainians supplied GMG and G 3 and AK 47 rounds of ammunition as well as "Stick Grenades which had a long handle that had stick on it, and the bottom of it was black, iron black."

The witness told the court that the arms were bought from ULIMO in Lofa County in Liberia by the then RUF battlefield commander, Sam Bockarie in 1996, and that two rebel generals of ULIMO, Farah Idee and Musa Sedibay led the sale.

He said that when another Liberian rebel group, Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy (LURD) entered Liberia, Charles Taylor requested the assistance of the RUF. RUF supplied manpower and Mr. Taylor provided the arms and ammunition to fight the LURD rebels.

According to the witness, Mr Taylor was against the RUF disarming because he wanted the weapons he supplied to be returned to him. "He told us not to disarm to the SLPP government, and not even UNAMSIL" he went on.

[This article was also published in The News]

BBC World Service Trust

Friday, 5 September 2008

Taylor was problem to disarm RUF

- witness tells court

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children under arms known as the Small Boys and Girls' Units. He said he heard Issa grumbling that Taylor had given peace to Liberia and he was now president but he didn't want Sierra Leone to have peace.

Courtesy: BBC World Service Trust

[This article was also published in The News, the Independent Observer, and the Standard Times]

The Analyst (Liberia)
Saturday, 6 September 2008

HOLLOWAY WANTS PROSECUTION FOR HEINOUS CRIMES

Says Reconciliation Is Good, But Justice Is Better

The TRC must recommend prosecution for past government officials that committed the most heinous economic and political crimes against the Liberian people at a special tribunal set up to address wrongs against humanity, Professor Joseph Holloway has suggested.

Professor Holloway said reconciliation is good and necessary, but justice is always better. By justice, he said the idea of political, economic and social justice should also be considered on the road to reconciliation.

Dr. Holloway said that people who have been violated must be guaranteed their safety from state terrorism, provide them with food security. He said individuals who have committed crimes against humanity should receive justice.

He was testifying Thursday at Liberia's Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) ongoing Thematic and Institutional Hearing on Historical Review at the Centennial Memorial Pavilion in Monrovia.

Holloway, professor of Pan African Studies at California State University and a prolific writer on Liberia cautioned the Supreme Court, the court systems, government officials, including the office of the president to not use their positions to protect groups that have violated the human rights of Liberian citizens.

"The mandates of most Truth and Reconciliation Commissions have been to discover and reveal past wrongdoing by the governments. In the case of Liberia, one can argued that issues of class, culture, ethnicity and land are at the roots of the historical crisis.

More importantly, the people and victims of internal unrest, civil war, state terrorism have been left in a state of confusion because the new governments have established Truth and Reconciliation Commissions based on the South African model, which has been controversial because many of the individuals accused for crimes against humanity are now part of those governments, and go unpunished with impunity," Professor Holloway said.

Holloway insisted that the government should make a public apology for past crimes against the people and should pay reparation in the form of building schools, roads, and medical centers in rural areas.

He said past economic and political crimes against indigenous peoples by the True Whig Party government should be heard by the TRC, saying that many of these issues involve land ownership.

Dr. Holloway proposed that the TRC should recommend to the government the removal of honors of individuals who abused government offices at the expense of its poor citizens.

Under the theme: "Examining Liberia's Past: Reality, Myth, Falsehood and the Conflict", the hearing will provide a critical review and expert perspectives into Liberia's past not only for the purpose of understanding the historical antecedents to the conflict, but to ensure the country's history or national narrative reflected the experiences, beliefs and aspirations of Liberians of all backgrounds.

The hearing featuring the testimonies and presentations of historians, anthropologists, journalists, lawyers, politicians, diplomats and clergymen is intended to help Liberians rewrite their history by seeking to identify the issues that underpinned our history, divided us as a people and nearly eviscerated the state.

The hearing is focused on events between 1979 and 2003 and the national and external actors that helped to shape those events.

The TRC was agreed upon in the August 2003 Accra Peace Agreement and created by the TRC Act of 2005. The TRC was established to “promote national peace, security, unity and reconciliation,” and at the same time make it possible to hold perpetrators accountable for gross human rights violations and violations of international humanitarian law that occurred in Liberia between January 1979 and October 2003.

Gov't Revokes Six Schools Permits

The Liberian government through its Ministry of Education has revoked the permits and accreditations of several schools within Monrovia and its environs.

Government takes the action for the failure of the affected schools to abide by the ministry's regulation for academic year 2008/ 2009.

The MOE instructed that all schools open for academic year 2008/09 on September 1, 2008, and threatened to take drastic measures against schools that fleeced.

The Deputy Minister for Administration at the ministry of Education, Hawa Goll- Kocktchi broke the news to reporters yesterday.

She named affected schools as the Worldwide Missions School, Calvary Baptist High School, Bishop Augustine Marwea High school, Free Pentecostal Global Mission, SOS Hammer Gmimer and the Leigh Miller High School.

According to her, the decision to revoke the permits of concerned schools stemmed from their failure to open on September 1, 2008, the official date set by the ministry for the resumption of school across the country.

Minister Kortchi added that the all schools operating in the country were informed long ago about the decision to open September 1, 2008, and was unanimously agreed upon by all school administrators.

Besides revoking their permits and accreditations, Minister Kortchi indicated that the ministry has also communicated to the West African Examinations Council (WAEC) not to accept registration of students of these schools.

Speaking further, minister Kortchi averred the decision is intended to compel schools administrators, both public and private, to abide by the guidelines set by the government of Liberia and most importantly to serve as deterrence to others who may do similar thing.

She also disclosed that the ministry has sent out agents on the field to monitor all schools, to verify their compliance or not. “Any schools found disrespecting the ministry's order besides the six affected schools would also face the wrath of the ministry,” she added.

Meanwhile, there are reports that besides the six affected schools, several schools in some parts of Monrovia and rural Liberia are yet to open their doors for academic 2008/2009.

This paper learned that most schools in the country were still administering entrances, and carrying on registrations. “There is a need for the ministry to monitor their agents on the field, to ensure that they do what is required,” remarked an observer.

The Analyst (Liberia)

Thursday, 4 September 2008

“WE SUPPORT TRC, NOT WAR CRIME COURT”

Say Catholic Bishops

The Catholic Bishops' Conference of Liberia (CABICOL) said its attention has been drawn to recent statements that the Catholic Church in Liberia is supportive of the establishment of a war crime court/tribunal in Liberia.

A press release issued by CABICOL in Monrovia said the statements were attributed to two clergy persons of the Catholic Church without naming the clergy persons, without saying when the attributions were made, or indicating who made the attributions.

The release however noted that one of these statements gives the impression that the Catholic Church of Liberia is supportive of the establishment of a war crime court/tribunal in Liberia, which it said is not true.



• Fr. Robert Tikpor

“On the contrary, the position of the Catholic Church of Liberia is very clear and unambiguous. At the end of the peace conference in Ghana, which produced the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, Liberians settled for the establishment of a Truth and Reconciliation Commission instead of a War Crime Court,” the release quoted the Catholic bishops as saying.

The release then clarified that the Catholic Bishops' Conference at its annual conference in 2006 held in Gbarnga, Bong County, reaffirmed its commitment and support to the TRC process.

“Accordingly, the Bishops' Conference instructed the Catholic Justice and Peace Commission (JPC) to undertake programs at both the National and Regional levels to enhance the work of the TRC through both human and material support,” the release noted further.

It said the position of the Catholic Church has not changed, noting, “For the record, let it be made clear that the Catholic Church of Liberia is not divided on critical internal or on national issues.

“As a matter of policy and tradition, the Catholic Church of Liberia is represented by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Liberia (CABICOL), which comprises the Bishops of the three Dioceses in Liberia.”

The Bishops' Conference of Liberia is presently headed by a president, Most Rev. Lewis J. Zeiglar, who is also the Bishop of the Diocese of Gbarnga.

The day to day affairs of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Liberia is run by a Secretary General, the present Secretary General of the Bishops' Conference of Liberia is Rev. Fr. Patrick M. Kabba, who is also the Parish Priest of Christ the King Catholic Church in Gaye Town, Old Road.

“By this arrangement, all official statements of the Catholic Church of Liberia are made by the President of the Bishops' Conference or if authorized by the Secretary General.

Accordingly, the Catholic Church Bishops' Conference of Liberia wants to make it clear that statement of individual Catholic, whether laity or religious should not be taken as the official statement or position of the Catholic Church of Liberia,” the release said.

In conclusion, the release said the Catholic Church Bishops' Conference of Liberia firmly believes that the Liberian people have given the TRC a serious national task.

“The Catholic Church also believes that the TRC must be given the task to do its work, present its and recommendation to the Liberian people. The Catholic Church in Liberia has given that body a helping hand and the Church will continue to do so,” it said.

It can be recalled that on July 15, 2008, a special commemoration program for victims and survivors of the July 29, 1990 St. Peter’s Lutheran Church Massacre was held with calls by the administrator of the Catholic Church in Liberia for the establishment of a war crimes tribunal after the TRC.

Monsignor Andrew Karnley, the Apostolic Administrator of the Catholic Church in Liberia, said Liberians must come to terms with issue of reconciliation and justice as there can be no reconciliation without justice.

“We must ensure that those who bear the greatest responsibilities for the horrors in Liberia must be held accountable for the crimes committed,” Reverend Father Karnley said, attracting a thunderous applause from worshippers who jammed packed the scene of the massacre to commemorate the killings.

He called on Liberians to see massacres committed by various factions in the civil war as lessons, saying they must vow they will never be repeated.

Father Karnley, at the time, said those who committed economic and war crimes during the country’s years of conflict must be held accountable for their actions.

“What happens after the TRC? Let’s stand for justice. Let us stand up for righteousness. If we fail to hold them accountable for their crimes, some of us will become victims again one day,” he added.

The Catholic prelate said the church will lobby with its partners for the establishment in Liberia of a hybrid of the war crimes court in Sierra Leone.

He lamented the massacre of the defenceless citizens who had sought refuge in the St. Peter’s Lutheran Church.

“They had come to the house of God to seek refuge under his watchful eyes but wicked men came and murdered them right in the presence of God.”

Father Karnley then also called for the erection of special memorials for all victims of the conflict at strategic locations around the country.

“The truth telling process in a therapeutic one, we believe that special memorials must be constructed at the approaches to our major cities to serve as remembrance for all those who lost their lives during this national horror,” he said.

Liberiawebs

Saturday, 6 September 2008

http://www.liberiawebs.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=463:trc-seeks-to-interview-taylor&catid=81:politics&Itemid=293

TRC seeks to interview Charles Taylor

SATURDAY, 06 SEPTEMBER 2008 04:06 SPECIAL COURT NEWS



Information available to the liberiawebs has disclosed that the Liberia Truth and Reconciliation Commission has requested permission from the UN backed Special Court for Sierra Leone to interview former Liberian President and war crime indictee Charles Taylor.

It is not known what questions the commissioners intend to ask Taylor who is already 11-count charges of war crimes and crimes against humanity. Legal pundits say it is not likely Taylor's lawyer will advise him to grant any such interview as it may jeopardize his case at The

Hague, the Netherlands.

In a statement issued Friday, September 5, 2008, the Registrar of the Court, Herman von Hebel outlined a set of procedure that the TRC must go through to get access to Mr. Taylor, which include but not limited to the obtaining the permission of Taylor and his lawyer as well as the approval of the authority of the Court.

See statement of the Special Court below:

Statement by Registrar Herman von Hebel regarding the request by the Liberian Truth and Reconciliation Commission for an audience with Charles Taylor

On 1 September 2008, the Special Court for Sierra Leone received a request from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Liberia for an audience with former President of Liberia Charles Taylor, an accused person indicted by the Special Court in the proceeding *The Prosecutor v. Charles Taylor*, SCSL-03-01-T, presently before Trial Chamber II.

Former President Charles Taylor faces an 11-count indictment for crimes against humanity, violations of Article 3 common to the Geneva Conventions and of Additional Protocol II, and other serious violations of international humanitarian law.

The Special Court for Sierra Leone informed the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Liberia on 2 September 2008 that any request for an audience with former President Charles Taylor would have to comply with the "Practice Direction on the procedure following a request by a State, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, or other legitimate authority to take a statement from a person in the custody of the Special Court for Sierra Leone," adopted by the Special Court on 9 September 2003 and amended on 4 October 2003.

The Practice Direction sets forth the procedure to be followed upon receipt of such requests. The procedure aims to strike a balance between assisting institutions such as the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Liberia to achieve their mandates, as well as to ensure the rights of accused persons indicted by the Special Court and the integrity of the proceedings before the Special Court.

Should the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Liberia resubmit its request in writing in compliance with the requirements of the Practice Direction, the Registrar will notify the President, the Presiding Judge, the Prosecutor and the Principal Defender of the Special Court. Significantly, in accordance with the Practice Direction, the Registrar will ensure that Mr. Taylor has ample opportunity to take legal advice from his counsel before deciding whether or not to agree to the questioning.

If Mr. Taylor agrees, then the Presiding Judge in the Trial Chamber II proceedings, upon hearing the parties, will take a final decision on the request. If the decision is a denial of the request, then an appeal is permitted to the President of the Special Court in the event that both Mr. Taylor and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Liberia agree to submit an appeal. Mr. Taylor maintains the right to deny the request himself.

Monday's request by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission marks the beginning of this process. The Special Court must keep in mind that our greatest concern is the need for Mr. Taylor's right to a fair trial to be protected. This is a question that, in the end, needs to be answered by the Presiding Judge of the Trial Chamber and, if applicable, the President of the Court.

United Nations  **Nations Unies**

United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL)

UNMIL Public Information Office Complete Media Summaries
5 September 2008

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

Newspaper Summary

200 Liberian Soldiers Return from Nigeria

(The Analyst)

- [Sic:] About two hundred (200) soldiers, accompanied by an officer of the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL), earlier this week returned to the country after completing a specialized welfare-training course at the prestigious Nigerian Army School of Infantry in Kaduna state, from the Federal Republic of Nigeria. According to the Ministry of National Defense of the Republic of Liberia, the training was conducted under the sponsor of the Nigerian government based on the Memorandum of Understanding signed between Liberia and Nigeria in August 2007. The MOU between the two countries accordingly, is part of the Military and Security assistance to the Security Sector Reform program for Liberia in helping to rebuilding the country's security Network.

US Professor Implores TRC to Recommend Prosecution for Heinous Crimes

(The Informer, The Analyst, New Democrat, Public Agenda)

- Addressing Liberia's Truth Commission on Thursday, a US Professor Joseph Holloway encouraged the Commission to recommend prosecution for past government officials that committed the most heinous economic and political crimes against the Liberian people at a special tribunal set up to address wrongs against humanity.
- Professor Holloway's suggestion, according to media reports, is based on the perception that reconciliation is good and necessary, but justice is always better. By justice, he said, the idea of political, economic and social justice should also be considered on the road to reconciliation.
- The TRC hearings are focused on events from 1979 to 2003 and the internal and external players that helped to shape those events.

UNMIL Soldier and Police Officer in Altercation

(The Inquirer)

- [Sic:] Several individuals and passerby yesterday [Thursday] took to their heels for safety after an abrupt scuffle between officers of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) and that of the Liberia National Police (LNP), which automatically resulted to the unnecessary involvement of firearm. The yard of the Central Bank of Liberia was nearly transformed into a fierce of battleground following claims that a Nigerian UNMIL soldier of NIBATT 17 resulted to the use of force as a means of removing a police vehicle which was parked in front of the bank.

Radio Summary

Star Radio *(News culled today from website at 8:00 am)*

NEC Warns Of Possible Delay in 2011 National Elections

- The National Elections Commission has warned the holding of elections in 2011 would not be possible if the House adjourns without passing three draft acts submitted to it.
- According to NEC Chairman James Fromoyan, the bills are crucial to the conduct of electoral

activities in the country.

- He named the bills as an Act to establish threshold for re-apportioning constituencies, an Act nullifying certain cities and statutory districts and an Act to amend Article 83-B of the constitution.
- Mr. Fromoyan said if the bills are delayed, activities such as delimitation of boundaries and the holding of voters' registration would be behind schedule.

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

American, European Officials Visit Liberia Today

- A team of Development Ministers from Norway, The Netherlands, Japan, Sweden and the United States will arrive in the country today.
- The Development Ministers will be in Liberia to attend an Extraordinary Meeting of Liberia Reconstruction and Development Committee, LRDC.
- While in the country, the delegation is expected to attend series of working sessions with President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf and heads of key institutions.

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

Local Catholic Church Appears Split Over War Crimes Court

- Contradictory statements are emerging from the Catholic Church of Liberia on its position on the establishment of a war crimes court in the country.
- In a release issued in Monrovia, the Catholic Bishop Conference of Liberia (CABICOL) said the Catholic Church is officially in support of the TRC process rather than the establishment of a war crimes court.
- The statement comes weeks after the Church's Administrative Head, Monsignor Father Andrew Karnley gave support to the setting up of a war crimes court as the official position of the Catholic community in Liberia saying the position was contained in a Pastoral letter carved by the Catholic Bishop Conference of Liberia in 2004.
- However, CABICOL in its release said the decision to commit and support the TRC was reached at the Accra Peace Accord and reaffirmed at its annual conference in 2006.
- The latest position from the Catholic Church contradicts a January 4, 2004 publication of the Bishops Conference on the establishment of a war crimes court in Liberia.
- The publication entitled: Liberia, at a crossroad, Hopes and Challenges was endorsed by the all the Catholic Bishops including Archbishop Michael Kpakala Francis.

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