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:
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Press clips are produced Monday through Friday.
Any omission, comment or suggestion, please contact
## Local News

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>News Item</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>…Two Senior Police Officers Suspended / <em>The New Citizen</em></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Commissioner Denies Link With Johnny Paul / <em>Standard Times</em></td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Witness to Nail Johnny Paul &amp; Co. / <em>Standard Times</em></td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnny Paul in The North / <em>The Focus</em></td>
<td>6-7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SEQUEL TO JOHNNY PAUL'S ESCAPE
TWO SENIOR POLICE OFFICERS SUSPENDED

Two senior police officers have been suspended from duty in the wake of the ongoing investigations into the disappearance of the leader of the Peace Liberation Party (PLP), Johnny Paul Koruma. A release from police headquarters confirmed last Friday that detective inspector, the public is due course.
Police Commissioner denies link with Johnny Paul

BY MOHAMED ISSA
Acting Deputy Inspector General of Police, Brima Acha Kamara has categorically denied rumours doing the round that he orchestrated the escape of wanted Johnny Paul Koroma, Leader of the Peoples Liberation Party (PLP) and his allies.

"I have never exchanged a call with Johnny Paul nor have I ever visited him," the Deputy D.G. maintained in an exclusive interview with the reporter at Police headquarters, George Street in Freetown.

He denied playing any role to facilitate Johnny Paul Koroma's escape, and neither does he have any family ties with the latter.

Commenting on his role during the AFRC junta rule, Commissioner Acha Kamara said he was merely performing a duty and that his posting to Kono during that period was purely a police routine, on the instruction of the

CONTINUED BACK PAGE

Police Commissioner

FROM PAGE 1

then Inspector General of Police, Teddy Williams and not by Johnny Paul as it was rumoured.

"I love this country like any other patriotic Sierra Leonean, but detractors are always bent on vilifying hard working people," he noted.

According to him, politics and policing are two different issues, and that his role in the ongoing investigation on Johnny Paul and others is part of his police duty.

He said he was the only senior police officer close to the I.G., Keith Biddle when the escape drama took place, and played a significant role in bringing the situation under control.
It was a coup...

10 witnesses to nail Johnny Paul & Co.

BY IBRAHIM KARIM-SEY
As police investigation continues into the shooting incident at the military depot at Wellington, east of Freetown on January 13, 2003 and the subsequent raid on the residence of PLP leader, Hon. Johnny Paul Koroma, reports reaching Standard Times have stated that indeed the Wellington attack was a prelude to a coup d'état, allegedly masterminded by the PLP leader.

Police sources say more than sixty suspects are currently under investigation for their alleged involvement in the Wellington attack.

Among those are people now identified as state witnesses numbering over ten for a possible court action.

Among the star witnesses for...

CONTINUE BACK PAGE

10 witnesses to nail Johnny Paul

FROM PAGE 1

the State is former member of the AFRC junta, Komba Nyama who is said to have blown the lid off the subversive act.

In his statement to the police, Nyama said he was among a group of men that boarded a poda poda van from Juba to Wellington on the night of the attack.

He could not however state who were in the poda poda van and how many of them were in it.

Another suspect likely to testify in the matter is a Pa Momoh Mansaray residing at Devil Hole on the outskirts of Freetown. He is said to be a father-in-law of another suspect Abdulai Sesay alias Rambo. Police sources say wife of Rambo, Kadie had leaked the coup plan to her father, Pa Mansaray who in turn had advised her son-in-law to keep away from the diabolical act.

Camp
Johnny Paul
In The North

When President Kabbah once pointed out that the North should apologize to the other regions of Sierra Leone for the terrible death and destruction committed on the people of this country, some people who hail from that region seem to regard the President's statement as a personal attack. I know a former Managing Editor of The Standard Newspaper published, urge, a wise, thinking and Nationalistic Head of State, Hon. Ahmad Tejan Kabbah to apologize to the Northerners for such a statement. It is now becoming clearer and clearer that there are some malcontents, disgruntled, and power thirsty bunch of criminals such as the likes of Johnny Paul Koroma that is bringing much shame and shame to the leadership of this country. The Peace Agreement put an end to the respective life of the so-called "rebels"; some of whom are now members of the government, but was also offered the enviable chance of contesting as a Presidential candidate and ultimately given a seat in the respectable Legislature. What else does this man really have to lose?

Fugitive Johnny Paul: come out, else? Fugitive Johnny Paul: still at large. It has been said that as idle mind is the devil's workshop. Here is Johnny Paul, a man who has not only been forgiven for his crimes but also given a seat in the parliament. It is now time for him to come out and face the justice for his crimes.

IG Kieh Biddle: order
Johnny Paul In The North

Truth As A Principle

In searching for Johnny Paul Koroma, Sierra Leoneans do not need to go to London or China or Liberia or Ivory Coast. The man is right here in Sierra Leone in the Northern Province. What we need is to ask our Northern brothers to help identify the fugitive Member of Parliament’s location, his refuge. Yes, there is the widely accepted African belief that when a man seeks refuge in his home land, he should not be reported.

We are living in a post conflict country, and Johnny Paul Koroma was one of the key factors responsible for this conflict. In such a situation, this is a need for all Sierra Leoneans to be patriotic. Peace for Sierra Leone is not necessarily peace for Tejan Kabbah.

Bringing more problems for Sierra Leone so as to drag President Kabbah and his government out of power is neither the solution.

The fact that the man fled has proved beyond all reasonable doubts that he is guilty. The former junta man had claimed he is a Christian. He goes around proclaiming his belief in Jesus Christ, and he has given numerous sermons and testimonies to this belief but when he was faced with the truth, he did not trust in God’s power to free him from any accusation and trial, he did not believe in the power of Christ to save him, he believed instead in his Northern connections and in his grenade, so he fled to the North.

Now, we are asking the North to bring their Son, Cousin, Uncle, justice must be seen. Johnny Paul must come out or Cordon and SEARCH will soon be conducted to get him out by force.