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 17 – Wednesday 19 February 2003

Press clips are produced Monday through Friday. Any omission, comment or suggestion, please contact
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Local News</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parliament Invites Johnny Paul / <em>Concord Times</em></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500 Volunteer to Nab Johnny Paul / <em>The Policy</em></td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hinga Norman Talks on Johnny Paul’s Escape / <em>The Policy</em></td>
<td>5-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnny Paul’s Joker Speaks in London / <em>The Pioneer</em></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Court Design Contract To Be Awarded Today / <em>Awoko</em></td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 Cells Await War Criminals / <em>Concord Times</em></td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Court Management Committee Due Soon / <em>Weekend Spark</em></td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>His Brother, 19 Others Released / <em>The Exclusive</em></td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnny Paul’s House Looted? / <em>The Exclusive</em></td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Things Are Not Looking Good… / <em>BBC Focus on Africa</em></td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnny Paul’s Escape, Two Officers to Face Tribunal / <em>The News</em></td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where Is Johnny Paul’s ADC? / <em>African Champion</em></td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two Senior Police Officers May Be Sacked / <em>Salone Times</em></td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amputee Tells Ghanaian Deputy Defence Minister / <em>Standard Times</em></td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tribunal For Police Traitors / <em>Standard Times</em></td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Guns To Face Special Court / <em>Rokel Times</em></td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Establishment of the Special Court… / <em>Rokel Times</em></td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 Cell Await War Criminals / <em>Concord Times</em></td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Forum to Discuss Justice After Mass Violence and Genocide / <em>IRIN</em></td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Parliament invites Johnny Paul

Parliament has invited fugitive leader of the Peace and Liberation Party Johnny Paul Koroma to answer to allegations of subversion lodged against him by the police.

Koroma was last Friday called to appear before parliament to explain his alleged involvement in what the speaker Justice Edmund R. Cusama described as "criminal acts of state impropriety." The speaker expressed the hope that the fugitive leader "will get this message and report to the house immediately."

The Hon. Amidu Nallo of the ruling Sierra Leone People's Party moved the motion. He cited Section 97 (2) of the 1991 Constitution of Sierra Leone Act No 6 that calls on members of parliament to maintain the dignity and image of the house in their conduct and activities outside parliament.

Koroma said that J.P. Koroma, by all these allegations, continues to hang over the head of Sierra Leone Police, who are offering Le 10 million for his capture. Koroma said that J.P. Koroma, by all these allegations, continues to hang over the head of Sierra Leone Police, who are offering Le 10 million for his capture. Koroma said that J.P. Koroma, by all these allegations, continues to hang over the head of Sierra Leone Police, who are offering Le 10 million for his capture.

Stand Order 26 (2) of the Constitution of Sierra Leone Act No 6 that calls on members of parliament to maintain the dignity and image of the house in their conduct and activities outside parliament.

Koroma said that J.P. Koroma, by all these allegations, continues to hang over the head of Sierra Leone Police, who are offering Le 10 million for his capture. Koroma said that J.P. Koroma, by all these allegations, continues to hang over the head of Sierra Leone Police, who are offering Le 10 million for his capture. Koroma said that J.P. Koroma, by all these allegations, continues to hang over the head of Sierra Leone Police, who are offering Le 10 million for his capture.
500 Volunteer to Nab Johnny Paul

Breaking developments in the southeastern parts of Sierra Leone indicate a strong will on the part of ex-combatants to resist any subversive project that might emanate from Johnny Paul Koroma and his allies.

During President Kabbah's visit to Bo two weeks ago, 500 disarmed and demobilized militiamen known as Kamajors from the east and the south held a brief meeting with him and disclosed their willingness to sort out Johnny Paul Koroma in Freetown. Asked how they wanted to go about it, the militiamen told the president that they had acquired a sniff dog with magical powers for the purpose of discovering Johnny Paul's hideout in Freetown.

The president told the ex-combatants that sorting out Johnny Paul was the official responsibility of the Sierra Leone Police Force, not militiamen. He however thanked them and told them to be patient.

500 Volunteer

From Front Page

In their interest in the stability of Sierra Leone, since President Kabbah's departure from Bo, the ex-combatants have been holding meetings to discuss strategies of resisting Johnny Paul Koroma and his cohorts should they resort to violence. Patriotic militiamen all over Sierra Leone have been informed about the mysterious disappearance of Johnny Paul Koroma and a handful of other wanted men.

It could be recalled that when Johnny Paul Koroma and his rebel soldiers seized power in 1997, militiamen all over Sierra Leone launched "Operation Black December" and killed many dissident forces of the junta regime.
The Policy
Monday, 17 February 2003

Hinga Norman Talks on
Johnny Paul’s Escape

The Minister of Internal Affairs and National Security, Chief Sam Hinga Norman, has finally commented on the circumstances leading to Johnny Paul Koroma’s escape, and public speculation that it might constitute a security risk. He made these comments to the Editor of the Policy Newspaper on Thursday, the 13th of February 2003.

Norman: Well, answering from the position of Internal Affairs Minister in charge of Police Administration, I’ll say it is an unfortunate situation, and government is not, in any way, viewing it with sympathy. That’s why government is aligning itself with the technical operators on the ground to carry out a full investigation covering departmental interest and the criminal interest that may have led to the entire episode.

Policy: It is being speculated that Johnny’s escape might lead to subversion and instability in Sierra Leone; what is your opinion?

Norman: That question should really be directed to the Police Force, but it may also be diverted to the government as an institution that has vowed to protect Sierra Leoneans and other residents of Sierra Leone. From the political angle, I will say government is always prepared to protect citizens and residents. We are always prepared. Further than that, government is relying on the will of the people of Sierra Leone, who have shown their resilience to the events that led to the signing of the peace agreement on the 18th of January 2002. Over and above that, every Sierra Leonean has shown preparedness for the protection of life and property. We are not willing to give any

The incident that led to this question has come at a time when every Sierra Leonean is looking forward to throwing away the negative perception of “fragile peace”. It is therefore very unfortunate. Personally, as Minister of Internal Affairs, I want to thank and congratulate the majority of soldiers in our army, who showed that they were not part and parcel of the renegade RUF and AFRC elements that have been arrested for the alleged act of instability.

I am particularly very happy that mention was not made of any typically recruited soldiers or the MRP sectors of the Civil Defence Force. Only RUF and AFRC personnel were named!

See Page 4

The Policy
Monday, February 17, 2003
Chief Hinga Norman Talks

Policy: As Minister in charge of the Sierra Leone Police Force, what is your reaction to scurrilous allegations being traded about the force in the wake of Johnny’s escape?

Norman: Again, when we talk about police involvement, one has to consider the percentage of personnel involved. Those involved in that unfortunate incident, for whatever reason, did not consider the harm that their action was going to do to the majority of decent men and women in the Sierra Leone Police Force. That is the main reason why this incident will be thoroughly investigated. It is not just for what has happened, but also to prevent its recurrence in the future.

Policy: It is being alleged that some police officers are disgruntled about the current manpower rationalization in the force, leading to reduction in ranks, and about conditions of service generally. Are you aware?

Norman: Yes, I am aware of the disgruntlement of the rank and file of the Police Force regarding changes in their ranks, and their conditions of service. The Police and the general public are unconvinced how a Sub-Inspector can suddenly become a Sergeant without viewing the situation as a demotion, no matter what explanation may be given, especially when much sensitization was not done. That is the reason why the Police Council will have to review the situation and make recommendations to government whether or not to change them.

About the general welfare of the Police, the government is very much aware and is prepared to make improvements in line with the conditions of service for the other forces, the army, the prisons, the fire force, etc. I will add my voice to His Excellency’s appeal for patience. However, because of the exigencies of the situation, government is doing everything to prioritize action for the general welfare of the forces.

Policy: What is being done presently to track down Johnny Paul Koroma?

Norman: The Police are doing everything to track down Johnny Paul and to find out his involvement (if any) in the Wellington incident. I am personally appealing to the public not to leave the situation in the hands of the Police alone. I know that the public is annoyed because it is alleged that the Police let Johnny Paul go, so the public will be reluctant to assist the Police. I am not dismissing these allegations, but I am appealing to the public to know that two wrongs do not make a right. We are not witch-hunting Johnny Paul, but some doubts should be cleared. Those doubts will never be cleared if Johnny Paul remains in hiding! Johnny Paul is an honourable leader of a political party; he can only maintain that honour by coming out of hiding to defend himself; so that posterity and history do not deny him a place in the affairs of Sierra Leone.

In subsequent editions we will get Chief Norman to talk about the prisons, the Fire Force, the National Registration Secretariat and the Immigration Department.
Johnny Paul’s Joker Speaks In London

On Wednesday February 12, 2003 a JOKER, wormed his way into the BBC FOCUS ON AFRICA PROGRAMME and in his own wisdom told this world including war weary Sierra Leoneans that he cannot buy the democracy in Sierra Leone even for an iota. The JOKER metamorphosing abroad gave his name to BBC FOCUS ON AFRICA PROGRAMME Editor, Robin Whyte as Paul Kaisa. Paul Kaisa as the name implies indicates utter disregard to the human sufferings in Sierra Leone. Paul Kaisa, the JOKER was humbling to defend the fugitive desperado, Johnny Paul Koroma. Kaisa in his wisdom, said in his interview with Robin Whyte that “I’m a bit closer to Johnny Paul Koroma the PLP Leader.” He also said that he does not think that Johnny Paul is that kind of Dangerous Person. Paul Kaisa, the JOKER who still wanted his coarse voice to be heard said: “Johnny Paul Koroma, being a Northerner, they don’t want him to be the President.”

The tribunals them raged. Robin, what do you call democracy? I don’t buy it for an iota, he said.

Why must Johnny Paul surrender? The JOKER, Paul Kaisa raged again over the BBC programme. Kaisa, the JOKER even went further down to tell the world, that if Johnny Paul surrenders he will be See back page.

From page 1

LION is not the case here, just to face the Lion, then you will surely know whether the Lion is an angry beast.

Paul Kaisa ought to come back home for at least a brief stay to see for himself the handiworks of those people he does not consider as dangerous including Johnny Paul Koroma his Northerner brother. Can Paul Kaisa learn a little bit from the Police who said they needed his brother.
Special Court design contract to be awarded today

By Kelvin Lewis

The body within the Special Court for the awarding of contracts will today issue out the design contract to one of five successful bidders who have presented their designs for the new court house within the complex. This was disclosed Friday by the Deputy Registrar Robert Kirkwood after journalists had been taken around on a guided tour of the new premises at New England Viule. Mr Kirkwood disclosed that in December last year 31 companies from 13 countries bought the tender documents. So far he said 6 tender documents have been submitted and today the contract will be issued out.

The architectural design for the building is for two courtrooms, which will be constructed for the sum of $3.4 million. If it is one courtroom, it will be for $1.76 million. "The decision whether it is for one or two courtrooms lies with our funders," he said who will be in the country this week. The Registrar Robin Vincent revealed that they are planning to break-ground in April. Then the construction "will be fast-tracked for 5 months." He said "we have been looking at rounds about July as the time when we will be opening the court." If this is not possible he said they will be looking to rent it commercially.

Lamin Jobe explaining to journalists about the construction work.
For Special Court

24 cells await war criminals

*** Judges convene in London

Special Court Prosecutor, David Crane may still be trying to garner evidence that would rope in people for having committed war crimes during the war, however cells have already being formed to house those that he would ultimately indict.

During Friday’s conducted tour of the Special Court’s New-England site, Lamin Jobe, chief of facilities management unit identified to newsmen two blocks of twenty four cells each which will serve as detention centre for those indicted criminals. The cells however formed a portion of the first phase of the entire detention center.

Speaking at a Press Conference afterwards, the Registrar, Robin Vincent was hasty to maintain that having twenty-four cells during the first phase of the construction does not however mean that it was the number of people that will be indicted. “It could be even more or less,” he said and added that it was the prosecutor, David Crane who will have to decide on a number.

Crane himself is presently keeping this close to his chest. Jobe said the cells will be of international standards and both local and international security personnel will man the centre.

By Osman Benie Sankoh

The Registrar also informed newsmen that the Special Court’s President, Judge Geoffrey Roberson will soon convene a meeting in London.

The judges, Vincent himself and the Legal Adviser, will attend it and are expected to discuss the rules of procedures for the court and to get them adopted.

He maintained that they are meeting in London because it is cheaper and it cuts down on travel difficulties to come down to Freetown.
Special Court Management Committee due soon

By Theophilus S. Gbenda

As the operations of the special court which aims at bringing justice those most greatly responsible for the violation of international humanitarian law during the decade long crisis continues on a

CONTINUED BACK PAGE

sound footing, the management committee of the court is due shortly to undertake an on the spot assessment of progress made so far.

The management committee which consists of countries overseas is the main funding body of the court and since the court is independent of the government of Sierra Leone and the United Nations, there is no way the court will succeed without the management committee.

By all indication therefore, the visit of the committee marks an important milestone in the success of the court.

The committee will focus its assessment on how the finances of the court are being administered and to have an in-depth idea as to how the registrar and the prosecutor are executing their duties.

Meanwhile, the first phase of the construction works at the Permanent site of the court has almost been completed and opened for the first time to the press.

The offices of the registry which is the administrative body of the court, are now fully operational at the permanent site and in the next couple of months, the other components of the court would have been transferred to the site.

Two detention blocks comprising 24 cells, have also been completed though in fact they may not be up to an international standard.

The next phase of the construction work will target the court houses and by the end of July, the entire court site would have been ready for the commencement of hearings.
Police have on Saturday, 15th February released from detention some 20 persons, including Johnny Paul's junior brother, after spending almost a month behind bars. They were all detained in the wake of a marathon police search for the fugitive former junta boss. No charges were made against them. Meanwhile, more people are said to be in detention, most of whom are reportedly relatives and friends of the former junta leader.
Johnny Paul's House Looted?

Keith Biddle

Last week, news filtered into our newsroom that the outskirts of the Shilpeshwar residence of the fugitive PLP leader had been looted and valuables worth millions carted away. We acted on the spur of the moment and dispatched one of our reporters to the scene, who revealed that since the start of the Johnny Paul saga, security at the house has been regularly rotated. On the day of the visit, our reporter met just one policeman at the house. He took him round and about the house. According to our reporter, all the rooms were turned upside down, probably as the result of police and army search on the former junta leader's house.

Our reporter noted that household furniture such as beds, chairs, table and about the house. According to our reporter, all the rooms were turned upside down, probably as a result of police and army search on the former junta leader's house.

Our reporter noted that household furniture such as beds, chairs, tables are still intact. However, he observed that he did not see anything like television, video set, refrigerator, or any electrical appliances.

The policeman at the house denied participating in or witnessing any looting at the house, saying that he was assigned there. However, residents of the neighbourhood say they saw vehicles taking things out of J P's residence. They could not say what the things were specifically or who was behind the exercise. When contacted for reaction, Police Media Branch, Ministry of Labour categorically denied the allegations as baseless and unfounded. She said it was "a blatant lie" that the police carted away items from JP's house.

"How can we (the police) steal from the house of a man we respect," she queried...
LEAD-IN: Things are not looking good for the Liberian army along the border with Sierra Leone. LURD rebels have captured a number of border towns, and there are reports that they’ve lost the key border post of Bo Waterside, which is on the Mano River Bridge linking Sierra Leone and Liberia. Last week a batch of Liberian soldiers fled into Sierra Leone, and today there was another group. Robin White asked our reporter, Lansana Fofana, how many.

FOFANA: The latest figures we have is 87 armed fighters. The bulk of them are Liberian soldiers. This is not the first time of them coming across the border. Last week we had 110 again crossing over. And apparently these fighters have been surrendering to the Sierra Leonean security forces, giving up their guns and saying that the fighting has been very intense along the border region, which is why they fled.

And how did they cross? Did they cross across the Mano River Bridge?

FOFANA: Mainly the Mano River Bridge area and then also the bypass routes, and they are eventually taken over the Kenema and then interrogated and then brought over to Freetown for encampment.

So where are they now, these latest people who crossed?

FOFANA: There’s a village called Mapeh five miles outside Lungi -- that’s the garrison town across the river from Freetown. That’s where they are encamped.

And what will happen to them? Do they want to go back to Liberia or what do they want?

FOFANA: The government here is very meticulous in its handling of these strained Liberian fighters. They don’t want to leave them to easily wedge their ways into the communities because of security reasons. You know, Sierra Leone has its own security problems. Therefore they encamp them, disarm them, and just keep them there. Some of them obviously say they don’t want to go back to fighting and they even prefer being encamped and not being bothered by anybody at all.

Would it look from this influx as if at least in the border areas the Liberian army is coming off the worst in its battle with LURD?

FOFANA: That’s very correct, because from what we know is that the majority of combatants who have crossed the border into Sierra Leone are from the Armed Forces of Liberia, that’s Charles Taylor’s forces. And some of them have even confessed to people who spoke to them in Kenema and elsewhere, journalists included as well, as saying that in fact the pressure is heaping on them, they are having shortfalls in supplies of ammunition and arms as well as logistics and therefore therefore they cannot stand the heat of battle, so it’s really Charles Taylor’s forces who are really coming under the heat and running away from the front line.
Johnny Paul's Escape
2 Officers To face Tribunal

The News

Wednesday, 19 February 2003

visited

Senior Assistant
Commissioner of
Police responsible for
professional standards, Oliver
Sommass, disclosed yesterday that very
soon, a police tribunal would be set up to try
two senior police
officers accused of
professional misconduct in the
recent raid on the
residence of fugitive
ex-junta leader,
Johnny Paul Koroma.
The officers, Assistant
Superintendent of
Police, A.M. Kamara and Francis B. Lobjie
were suspended for two
weeks following their
alleged role that led to
the escape of Johnny
Paul.

Briefing the press
yesterday, Somass said
a committee that was set
up to investigate the
officers has already
concluded its work and
preferred against the
charges. The committee
stressed that they would face
punishment in
conformance with the
police code. He did not
rule out the possibility of them being expelled.
The police intimated
yesterday that this would
be the first time a tribunal
to be set up in the
country.

It would be recalled that
a raid was conducted on
Honourable J.P.
Koroma's residence on
January 17, this year
which led over 20
people arrested.

Apart from those
arrested at J.P.
Koroma's house,
some of other people
were also picked up in
different locations
following a shootout at
a military base in
Koroma.

Twenty-five people
were set free this week.
Were is Johnny Paul’s ADC?

The circumstances surrounding the disappearance of Mr. Senesi Ndoleh, an alleged former ADC to the fugitive PLP leader Johnny Paul Koroma, still remained unclear. Mr. Senesi Ndoleh’s family members could not trace his whereabouts, our investigation revealed. According to the reports, Mr. Ndoleh was arrested sometimes in July 1998, following the removal from power of the AFRC junta on allegations that he was a Junta collaborator. Ndoleh was whisked to the Pademba Road central prisons. An eye witness accounts said, he was severely beaten, tied-up and stripped naked. His home was raided and later burnt down by a group of men that were believed to be Civil Defence Fighters (CDF) supporting the government. We are of the opinion that our son, brother, cousin has been killed or not in safe hands, a family member told our reporter.
Johnny Paul Escape
Two Senior Police Officers May Be Sacked

By Salamatu Turay

Senior Assistant Commissioner of Police Standards Bureau Oliver Somasa, said yesterday that any police officer found wanting at the conclusion of their investigations into the escape of People's Liberation Party (PLP) leader Johnny Paul Koroma a month ago, would be dismissed from the force.

Mr. Somasa was speaking to journalists at Police Headquarters, George Street in Freetown. He went further to say that two senior police officers Assistant Superintendents of Police Francis B. Lebbie and A. M. Kamara were suspended from duty. He said that their suspension was recommended by a committee set up to investigate their roles in the execution of the arrest warrant leading to the escape of Johnny Paul Koroma from his Shepeneh Drive, Juba Hill residence a month ago.

The police, he maintained, is a transparent institution that would not hesitate to punish those found guilty by the Committee when it would have concluded its investigations. However, he said that whatever the outcome, “the decision of the police hierarchy is final.”

Responding to questions about the release of about twenty persons who were in custody in connection with “subversive” activities linked to Johnny Paul, Mr. Somasa said that their release came about because, “police could not find any reason to show that they were involved in Johnny Paul Koroma's subversive activities during the investigation.”
Amputee tells
Ghanaian Deputy
Defence Minister

BY SAIDU KAMARA

Mr. Edward S. Conteh, the acting Chairman of the War
Affected Amputee Association at Murray Town has told
the visiting Deputy Defence Minister of Ghana, Hon. Ed-
ward Marley Akita that they shall forgive the perpetrator,
who forced them to be handicapped for no just course
during the ten years' rebel war in Sierra Leone, but can
never forget the ordeal they went through at the hands of
the heartless rebels.

He said they were 230 inmates of the Murray Town
amputee camp, but due to the repatriation process
many of their colleagues have been repatriated to
Kenema, Bo and Kabala.

Mr. Conteh said even though they have gone yet
still they encountered difficulties on how to survive
with their families.

He therefore appealed to the deputy minister and his
President, I. A. Kutubour, the government and people of
Ghana to assist them alleviate their sorrowful plight.

He told the Deputy Minis-
ter and his entourage that
Muslim and Christian
organizations were very help-
ful to them, adding that it was
very painful for someone
who was able to take care
of him or herself and family
to subject himself to aims for
survival.

He disclosed he was a profes-
sional motor mechanic
before but due to the ampu-
tation of his hand he can no
longer execute his job effec-
tively.

He thanked the Deputy
Defence Minister for not
only sharing with them gifts
during the Eid-ul-fetra, but
also for the thought they
have for them (the ampu-
tees).

Responding on behalf of the
8-man Ghanaian delega-
ted by Deputy Defence Min-
ister, Hon. Edward M. Akita,
expressed sympathy with the
amputees and other vic-
tims who have gone through
the ten-year rebel war.

Hon. Akita said they were
here to learn a lesson that
too much fighting is not the
best way to resolve conflict
but through dialogue.

Senior officials of the Ghana
High Commission led by the
High Commissioner, H.E.
Kabral Blay-Amfeke ac-
accompanied the delegation
to the amputee camp.

A member of the visiting
teem, Major E.A. Quishire,
Director of Public Relations,
Ghana Armed Forces (GFA)
said their visit to Freetown
was to witness Ghanaian
soldiers serving under
UNAMSIL mental parade,
and to boost their morale.

Other members of the dele-
gation were Col. HWK
Agbennah, Director of
Land Operation, General
HQ, Col. Grant, Matron at-
tached to 57 Military Hospi-
tal, Commander DRJ
Ayervang Commanding offi-
cer, Ghana Navy ship
Archimela, Lt. Col. Musa,
the incoming officer of
UNAMSIL Chabatt 7, Mr.
Okof Bochu Director, Min-
istry of Defence, Major
J.W.K. Adobor attached to
Army HQ, and Major Akim
Akoko, UNAMSIL Chabatt 7.
Tribunal for Police traitors

By Theophilus S. Gbenda

As investigations into the Wellington shootout and the subsequent crackdown of suspects including the unsuccessful raid at Johnny Paul's residence gains momentum, high ranking police officers have disclosed in a weekly press briefing that a tribunal would be set up to try those officers who allegedly failed to perform their professional duties, thus paving the way for the wanted suspect, Hon. Johnny Paul Koroma, to escape.

As at press time, two senior police officers who led the raid, are known to have been suspended, pending further investigations.

According to Chief Superintendent of Police, O.B.S. Somasa, internal investigations with respect to the alleged unprofessional conduct on the part of the two officers is ongoing, and that in consultation with the law officer's department, appropriate charges will later be levied against them.

As for the whereabouts of the fugitive M.P. the police maintained that they have still not got any clue as to where his location might be, but however vowed to do everything humanly possible to track him down.

Meanwhile, 23 suspects arrested in connection with the Wellington incidence have been freed on condition.

The releases, according to the police, was a routine process and that the police found no evidence linking those released to the ongoing investigation.

Meanwhile the police have called on the general public, particularly the press, to co-operate with them in their ongoing investigations, as CONTINUED BACK PAGE

FROM PAGE 1

they alone cannot achieve the desired results.

All are called to be calm as the police and the available security network in the country, are above the situation.
The SRSG made his observation at the opening ceremony of a Community Bank by Vice President Solomon Berewa at Mile 91. Speaking, the SRSG further said that he has no doubt that the security situation could be effectively handled by the army but needs maximum support from Unamsil. He catalyzed the significant role played by Unamsil to restore law and order after a marathon bloody war.

In his speech, Vice President Solomon Berewa said that the opening of community banks in the country are all projects initiated by the government to help bring back normalcy and development to the community. He also admonished the community to take good care of the facilities given to them. He further intimated that the government is determined to improve the standard of all Sierra Leoneans.
Establishment of the United Nations’ Special Court In Sierra Leone

Taylor’s escape, Corporal Friday Sunku, now in prison.

There is also the Al Qaeda’s ties to the RUF as well. The relationship between the RUF and the Al Qaeda was and still continues to have ramifications for international understanding.

The basis for the war in Sierra Leone stems from the country’s history of civil strife, political corruption, and economic instability. The government of Sierra Leone has been characterized by prolonged internal conflicts, which have led to significant human rights abuses and widespread displacement of populations.

One recent article in Africa Analysis International states that war criminals have been killed or entered into political deals. These efforts are seen as crucial steps towards the establishment of the Special Court for Sierra Leone to address the atrocities committed in the civil war.

The Special Court for Sierra Leone aims to prosecute individuals responsible for serious violations of international humanitarian and human rights law committed in Sierra Leone from 1991 to 2002. It is the first international criminal court established to deal specifically with such crimes.

The court seeks to ensure justice for victims and to promote the rule of law in Sierra Leone. It operates under a hybrid model, combining international and domestic legal professionals.

The International Criminal Court (ICC) has jurisdiction over crimes committed in Sierra Leone, but due to a lack of resources and political will, it has not been able to prosecute war criminals effectively.

This Special Court is seen as a crucial step towards establishing a coherent approach to prosecuting war criminals in Sierra Leone. It is hoped that this court will help bring justice to those who have suffered under the atrocities of the civil war and help prevent the recurrence of such crimes in the future.

In conclusion, the establishment of the Special Court for Sierra Leone represents a significant step towards justice and accountability for the atrocities committed during the civil war. It is hoped that this court will help bring an end to impunity for war criminals and contribute to the rebuilding of Sierra Leone.
Concord Times
Wednesday, 19 February 2003

To: <leonenet@listproc.umbc.edu>
cc: 
Subject: Special Court: 24 Cells Await War Criminals

19/02/2003 21:50

Special Court: 24 Cells Await War Criminals

Concord Times (Freetown)

February 17, 2002
Posted to the web February 19, 2003

Osman Benk Sankoh
Freetown

Special Court Prosecutor, David Crane may still be trying to garner evidence that would rope in people for having committed war crimes during the war, however cells have already being formed to house those that he would ultimately indict. During Friday’s conducted tour of the Special Court’s New-England site, Lamin Jobe, chief of facilities management unit identified to newsmen 2 blocks of twenty four cells each which will serve as detention centre for those indicted criminals. The cells however formed a portion of the first phase of the entire detention center. Speaking at a Press Conference afterwards, the Registrar, Robin Vincent was hasty to maintain that having twenty-four cells during the first phase of the construction does not however mean that it was the number of people that will be indicted. "It could be even more or less," he said and added that it was the prosecutor, David Crane who will have to decide on a number.

Crane himself is presently keeping this close to his chest.

Jobe said the cells will be of international standards and both local and international security personnel will man the centre.

The Registrar also informed newsmen that the Special Court’s President, Judge Geoffrey Robertson will soon convene a meeting in London.

The judges, Vincent himself and the Legal Adviser, will attend it and are expected to discuss the rules of procedures for the court and to get them adopted.

He maintained that they are meeting in London because it is cheaper and it cuts down on travel difficulties to come down to Freetown.
AFRICA: Online forum to discuss justice after mass violence and genocide.

NAIROBI, 19 February (IRIN) - Facing History and Ourselves will be hosting an online forum from 20 February through 7 March to discuss how individuals, communities, nations, and international organizations seek justice in the aftermath of mass violence and genocide.

Teachers, students and community members will be joined online by Richard Goldstone, Prosecutor for the International Criminal Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda and a Justice for South Africa's Constitutional Court; Pumla Gobodo-Madikizela, psychologist, activist, and associate professor of psychology at the University of Cape Town, South Africa, and author of A Human Being Died that Night: A South African Story of Forgiveness; Samantha Power, author of A Problem from Hell: America and the Age of Genocide, and founding executive director of the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy at Harvard University; and Martha Minow, Harvard University School of Law, member of the Kosovo Commission, author of Between Vengeance and Forgiveness.

Facing History and Ourselves bills itself as "an international, professional development organization which engages teachers and students of diverse background in an examination of racism, prejudice, and anti-Semitism in order to promote the development of a more humane and informed citizenry".

The organization is currently developing a web-based, interactive module that explores transitional justice processes, including prosecutions, truth commissions, coexistence initiatives, reparations, and efforts at healing.

[For further information, go to: http://www.facinghistory.org/facing/fhao2.nsf]