

VOL. 8 NO. 159

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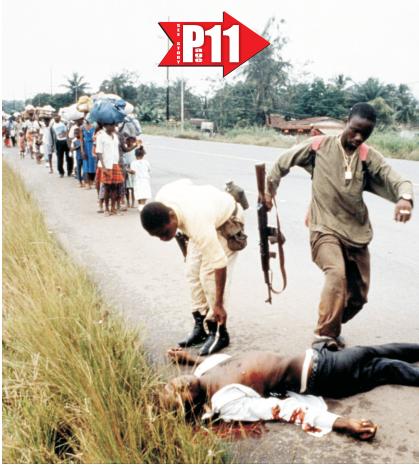
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2018

PRICE LD\$40.00

Full Text of U.S. Congress Bill for War Crimes Court in Liberia

See Pages

6 & 7



Flashback: Atrocities committed in Liberia

J.S. Gongress racs Linerians

-to support TRC process

Snowe threatens Igalaction Rep. Edwin Snowe, Jr. Min. Eugene Fahngon -against verbal attacks by Fahngon



Continental News

Uganda's Museveni blames 'external forces' for opposition unrest

ganda's President Yoweri Museveni has accused "external forces" of trying to foment trouble by funding his political opponents in a bid to undermine the country's image abroad.

In an hours-long televised speech late on Sunday, the 74year-old railed against the opposition and accused "external forces" of seeking to "sabotage" Uganda's growth.

His address comes as Kampala grapples with a wave of unrest following the arrest of several parliamentarians including a former pop star, drawing an unusual amount of attention and condemnation from abroad.

Museveni, who took power in 1986, claimed "foreign money" was being funnelled to his political opponents by unnamed NGOs to foment trouble by paying youngsters to burn tyres and throw rocks at police.

The aim, he said, was to "show the world Uganda is not stable".

And Uganda would deal firmly with opposition troublemakers, he pledged.

"The indisciplined opposition politicians that are accused of terrorism against the population, conspiracy to commit arson or treason should be handled firmly," he

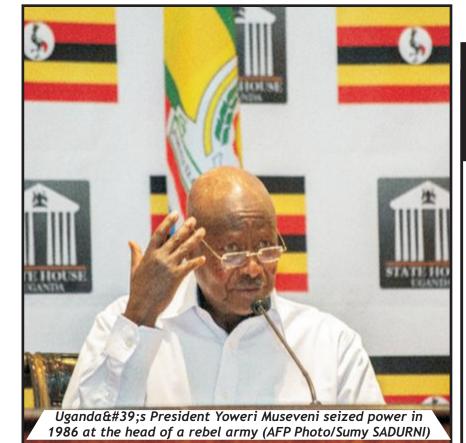
His remarks appeared to be directed at 34-year-old MP

Robert Kyagulanyi, better known as pop star Bobi Wine, who entered parliament last year and has since become a lightning rod for youthful opposition to Museveni.

Kyagulanyi and more than 30 others were charged with treason after a crowd of

allegedly threw stones at Museveni's motorcade, breaking a window.

Released on bail, the singer is in the US seeking medical treatment for injuries he claims were sustained while in custody.-AFP



arrested eating with woman Share

n Egyptian man in Saudi Arabia has been arrested after a video of him having breakfast with a woman went viral on Twitter.

In the video, a man with an Egyptian dialect eats breakfast beside a womanwearing a full face veil, who many assumed to be Saudi.

This is in contravention of the law in Saudi Arabia, where in workplaces or eateries like McDonald's and Starbucks, families and single men have to sit in different areas. Women must sit separately from single men in these places.

They are not allowed to exercise most activities without being accompanied by their male guardians, usually a father or husband, but possibly a brother or a son.

The man was arrested by the Saudi Ministry of Labour and Social Development, who accused him of "committing several violations and taking up a post exclusively reserved for Saudis".

The Arabic hashtag "an Egyptian having breakfast with a Saudi" has been used over 113,000 times on Twitter, where it has become the centre of a cultural

divide. The view from Saudi Arabia

In the 30-second video, the man and woman briefly joke about eating their breakfast together, with nobody else invited.

But the point which has caused the most consternation comes at the end of the video, when the woman appears to feed the man.

Many Saudis on social media were highly critical of both the man and the woman, with the majority of people wondering why the man was punished instead of the woman.

"I need to understand why men are constantly punished and not women," said Twitter user Malak. "I am a Saudi [woman] and I swear I want them to punish her with him. Laughter, eating at the workplace... where are your limits?"

Some people meanwhile stressed that work relationships should transcend gender, with Twitter user Tarek Abd Alaziz calling for colleagues to be able to "joke or eat or do anything else among the general relations of humans".

But not everyone agreed, with Hammoud Alduhayian saying that "developing jobs for Saudi women among foreigners is considered an explicit breakdown of customs. values."-BBC

Gunmen storm Libya's Oil Corporation

n armed group has stormed the Tripoli headquarters of the National Oil Corporation (NOC) in Libya.

Security forces clashed with the armed men at the landmark building in the centre of the city, and blasts and gunfire could be heard, witnesses say.

A security official at the site said at least two staff members and two gunmen have been killed in the attack.

Last week, the UN announced that a truce between warring militias had been agreed in the capital.

A UN-backed government is nominally in power in Tripoli but militias occupy much of the rest of the country.

A member of staff, who said he had jumped out of a window to flee, told Reuters news

agency three or five gunmen were shooting inside the building and several people had been shot.

The NOC chairman, Mustafa Sanallah, has been safely evacuated, a witness quoted by Reuters added.

Rescue services are at the scene to treat the wounded coming out of the building.

"The death toll so far is two killed from NOC staff and two attackers," said Ahmad Ben Salim, spokesman for the Special Deterrence Force (Rada) force, according to Reuters.

It is not yet clear who carried out the attack.

Libya's oil sector, which is central to the economy, has been repeatedly disrupted by violence since long-time ruler Muammar Gaddafi was ousted in 2011.

Earlier this month, there were clashes between rival armed groups, and Tripoli has also seen occasional militant attacks.

The recent violence has forced thousands of people to flee to nearby towns or seek shelter in other parts of the capital, while many more remain trapped inside their homes.

In May, the Islamic State group claimed a deadly attack on the national election commission offices i n t h e capital.

A blow to the state's moneymaker

Analysis by Rana Jawad, BBC News North Africa correspondent This attack will send

shockwaves throughout Libya; not because it was unexpected, but rather for what it symbolises. The NOC represents the core

of what has kept Libya afloat over the last seven years of anarchic rule and prevented it from being branded as a failed state - it is the state's money-maker.

The National Oil Corporation in Tripoli is the only internationally recognized oil body - they have consistently been the only institution that is in control of global oil sales from the conflict-ridden country. But like other government institutions, it has not been immune from the divisive, internal regional politics that has come to define Libya over the years.

It too has a parallel - but paralysed - rival in the East of the country. However, the head of the NOC, Mustafa Sanalla, who was rescued in today's attack, managed to find allies in armed groups where even the government has failed.

His relationship with East Libya's armed forces, which has had its ups and downs, has largely allowed the NOC to keep the oil and gas flowing from most parts of Libya despite the chaos and insecurities.-BBC



In air ticket saga: We beg to differ

THE MINISTRY OF Finance and Development Planning cleverly rejects responsibility for circumstances that led to the upgrading of Finance Minister Sameul D. Tweah's air ticket from business class to First Class at an extra cost of US\$16.000.00.

A PRESS RELEASE from the Ministry carefully clarifies that it has in no way violated the Revised Travel Ordinance of 2016/2017 on the Finance Minister's official trip to China as reported.

INSTEAD, IT EXPLAINS that the purchase of the Minister's ticket to Beijing, China was in accordance with the Government of Liberia Revised Travel Ordinance of 2016/2017 which changed the traveling class of the Minister of Finance and Development Planning as well as the Minister of Foreign Affairs respectively from economy to business class.

BUT WHO UPGRADED Minister Tweah's air ticket to First Class onboard Emery Airline at an additional cost of US\$16K?

THIS IS THE question the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning is not answering, but further clarifies that officials or employees of government traveling on official government business abroad are free at their own will and expense to upgrade their ticket with absolutely no financial burden to government.

IT WOULD SOUND totally absurd that the Minister of Finance traveling on an official state duty will use his personal finances to upgrade his official air ticket purchased by the Government of Liberia.

THIS IS UNPRECEDENTED and Minister Tweah is not such a wealthy man to undertake such venture by himself, but the government wants to public to believe that he did so at his own expense.

FURTHERMORE, THE MINISTRY says it has no knowledge of the purported ticket published by FrontPage Africa that the paper claims belongs to Minister Tweah and was purchased from Worldwide Air Service in Osu, Ghana, arguing that the authentic ticket purchased by the Ministry for Minister Samuel D. Tweah's trip to China was purchased from Jos Travels and Tours, Inc. in Monrovia.

GRANTED, BUT WHERE did the upgrading of the Minister's ticket take? Was it in Accra or Monrovia? Would someone at the Ministry of Finance please provide clarity?

WE ARE RAISING these concerns because Minister Samuel D. Tweah is not a private citizen, and neither was he on a private visit to China, but to represent the Government and people of the Republic of Liberia.



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By Alexandra Borchardt

Journalism's Comeback

After years of bad news for the news business, recent data suggest that consumer confidence is slowly returning. To sustain this trend, journalists must continue producing quality content, and governments should explore new ways to support those who cannot pay.

of a modest recovery. According to comprehensive survey of digital media consumption - subscriptions are trending up while consumer confidence has stabilized. For a much-maligned business that trades in trust, these fragile gains amount to meaningful progress.

To be sure, the world's media remain troubled; the report, produced by the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, shows that only 44% of news consumers believe what established media brands publish. But that represents an increase of one percentage point from last year, suggesting that the industry's trust deficit has either stopped growing or is actually narrowing.

Other surveys are even more bullish; for example, the annual Edelman Trust Barometer found that journalists are regaining their credibility, while overall journalism is at its highest point in seven years. These findings prompted the firm to declare that "the return of experts" is upon

Although it may be too early for media executives to declare victory just yet, these are clearly good signs for an industry that has had its reputation battered in recent years. Political polarization has made people suspicious of media outlets that don't support their views, while cost cutting in newsrooms has degraded the quality of journalism on offer. But, as the new data suggest, journalists appear to be finding ways to address these challenges.

Perhaps the most revealing trend in this year's Digital News Report is the growing distrust in news shared via social media. For example, our study found that only 23% of respondents trust news they find on social media, and just 34% believe what they turn up in search engines. These figures will likely trouble Google, Facebook, and other tech giants whose businesses are no less reliant on trust than traditional media organizations.

But while platforms like Facebook stumble, many traditional media outlets are finding their footing; subscription trends support this conclusion. Of the 74,000 survey respondents, 14% said they paid for digital news at least once during the previous 12 months, while the average in the Nordic countries was closer to 30%. In the United

XFORD - After years of ill health, the States, President Donald Trump's attacks on news industry is finally showing signs so-called "fake news media" have had the opposite effect, pushing more people to the Digital News Report 2018 - the most support independent journalism than ever before. In 2016, for example, only 9% of American consumers paid for news online; that share rose to 16% in 2017 and has held steady this year.

> Even in countries like the United Kingdom, which has no shortage of free news websites, people are investing in quality reporting. The Guardian's model of soliciting donations or membership payments is fueling a financial turnaround. In nearly every country surveyed, young people on the political left demonstrate the highest propensity to pay.

> Some critics argue that the media's payment model contradicts the original spirit of the Internet as a place for the free exchange of ideas, news, and information. Moving the best stories behind paywalls, opponents say, will give rise to second-rate news for secondclass citizens.

trust in traditional and online-only But this argument misses three key points. For starters, the number of digitally connected people who cannot afford to pay for news at all can be presumed to be quite small; willingness to pay is much more a question of spending priorities. Moreover, paying for something that one perceives as valuable helps make it so, as the move to prioritize membership models over purely transactional approaches illustrates.

> Finally, for those who truly cannot pay, there are viable options for bringing quality journalism to low-income households. For example, tax codes could be reformed to make the practice of journalism more affordable, while government or foundation funding could increase support for public media programming.

> When people pay for content, journalists gain an incentive to deliver. They scrutinize their products for value, check facts thoroughly, innovate, investigate, and cut down on the cheap, attention-grabbing noise that plagues so many social-media platforms. Best of all, these trends are mutually reinforcing; the better the journalism is, the more consumers will value it.

> It has been a long time since the media industry had good news to report about itself. Now that we do, it is imperative that we work harder than ever to sustain the trend toward quality, credibility, and financial viability.

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By Imbi Paju

Russian Propaganda's Western Enablers

ALLINN - Every day seems to bring a new revelation about Russia's political meddling in Western countries. From Twitter trolls sowing discord among voters, to the Kremlin's alleged support for extremist groups, Russian propaganda is undermining trust in democratic governance. And although Western politicians may talk tough in response to the Kremlin's efforts to upend the status quo, their actions often betray a weaker hand. Russia's ability to influence journalism and literature is a case in point.

The Finnish author Sofi Oksanen once observed that Russia's information warfare works because its targets are often willing participants. During the Cold War, for example, Finland's economic dependence on raw materials and technology from Russia left its leaders loath to antagonize the Kremlin. This phenomenon - "Finlandization" - helps explain why, when Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn's The Gulag Archipelago was translated into Finnish in 1974, the first edition was printed in neighboring Sweden.

Even Britain has succumbed to this calculus. In 1944, the British establishment tried to prevent publication of George Orwell's Animal Farm; then-editor T.S. Eliot argued that the book's anti-Soviet "point of view" was "not convincing." No one, it seemed, wanted to anger Stalin, who was then an ally of Great Britain.

This type of indirect pressure continues to claim victims today. In the Baltic states, people are increasingly worried that geopolitical competition over the Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline linking Russia to Germany will affect writers' freedom of speech to opine on Russian President Vladimir Putin's regime.

I don't blame them. I am acutely aware of how dangerous it can be to run afoul of Russian interests. In 2009, I edited a series of essays with Oksanen documenting official practices in Estonia when it was part of the Soviet Union. Our book Fear Was Behind Everythingdetailed the terror that gripped Estonia under the Soviet system. For a half-century, any book that was critical of the communist regime was banned in the Baltic states and was not published in Finland, either. Our volume marked a turning point. Or so we thought.

The idea for our book was inspired by an incident in 2007, when the statue of a Soviet soldier, the symbol of occupation forces in Estonia, was relocated from central Tallinn to a military cemetery elsewhere in the city. Russia protested the move, and deadly riots erupted amid rumors that the government was denying Estonian Russians the right to mourn their war dead.

The next year, Johan Bäckman, a docent at Helsinki University, published a book about the incident, The Bronze Soldier, in which he called Estonia an "apartheid state" led by incompetent leaders whose citizens were incapable of coming to terms with their own history. His publisher was an Estonian-born journalist and former KGB officer, Vladimir Ilyasevich, who had worked in Finland and in other Nordic countries during the Cold War.

Bäckman then trained his pro-Russian vitriol on me. First, he attacked a book I had written about my mother's trauma in a Soviet gulag, and then he helped organized protests against the release of Fear Was Behind Everything.

Because of these threats, we requested armed police protection on the day of the book's launch in 2009. And, while Bäckman has since left his teaching job and directs most of his attention to spouting other pro-Putin falsehoods, the Russian-backed propaganda war he helped wage continues to affect my sense of security. Simply put, the old Soviet system of fear continues to wreak havoc on the truth and punish those who defend it on the page.

While Russia's propaganda efforts may be aimed at influencing governments, it is individuals who suffer the consequences. As the chief executive of the Estonian International Center for Defense and Security, Dmitri Teperik, recently argued, information wars are most dangerous for "civil activists" - like journalists, writers, and authors - because we are the ones on the front lines.

Nearly three decades after the fall of the Iron Curtain, Russia maintains its Sovietera proclivity to prey on peoples' fears and insecurities. Its operatives are happiest when their opponents cease their activities - when writers stop writing, or publishers stop publishing. Unfortunately, Russia succeeds more than it fails because it is easy to misinform; as Noam Chomsky once said, people don't know what they don't know.

The best chance truth has is if writers and authors persist in presenting readers with facts; every now and then, we are rewarded for these efforts. Earlier this year, the Finnish journalist Jessikka Aro took Bäckman to court, after having become a target of his malice since 2014, when she started exposing the Kremlin's social media "troll" factory.

The outcome of that case is pending. But, with any luck, Bäckman will be punished for his harassment and baseless attacks. His trial could even mark a definitive moment in the history of efforts to counter Russian propaganda, giving beleaguered writers and journalists the courage they need to stand up to Russia in ways that governments rarely have.

OPINION

By Jayati Ghosh

The Real Problem with Free Trade

EW DELHI - For most critics of globalization, trade is the villain, responsible for deepening inequality and rising economic insecurity among workers. This is the logic driving support for US President Donald Trump's escalating tariffs. Why, then, does the message resonate far beyond the United States, and even the advanced economies, to include workers in many of the developing countries that are typically portrayed as globalization's main beneficiaries?

Free trade is hardly the only - or even primary - source of inequality and insecurity worldwide. Surprisingly, one enduring problem that provokes far less popular backlash is that finance continues to dominate the world economy, generating substantial instability and mounting risks like those that led to the 2008 global financial crisis.

Moreover, some countries continue to pursue fiscal austerity, instead of consolidating their budgets by, say, addressing large-scale tax avoidance and evasion by major companies and wealthy individuals. And labor-saving innovations continue to be developed and deployed, producing "technological unemployment" among some groups.

Some argue that free trade is being demonized simply because people do not understand what is in their own best interest. But that is both patronizing and simplistic. Even if free trade is ultimately broadly beneficial, the fact remains that as trade has become freer, inequality has worsened.

One major reason for this is that current global rules have enabled a few large firms to capture an ever-larger share of the value-added from trade. Specifically, the proliferation of global value chains has enabled powerful multinational firms to control the design, production, and distribution of traded goods and services, even as various segments are outsourced to smaller firms far from final markets.

These firms often benefit from intellectual-property monopolies, reinforced by free-trade agreements designed to strengthen corporate power. These enable them to collect massive economic rents, especially at the pre-production (including design) and post-production (marketing and branding) stages, where the most value-added and profit is generated.

Meanwhile, increasingly intense competition in the production phase drives down prices, so that the actual producers, whether employers or workers, receive diminishing shares of the value pie. The upshot of this system is that many developing countries that should have benefited from the globalization of value chains have remained confined to low-productivity activities that yield only limited economic value and do not even foster wider technological upgrading.

The forthcoming Trade and Development Report 2018 by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) captures how top firms have steadily increased their share of total exports, and now dominate global trade. Ironically, this trend has intensified since the 2008 global financial crisis, which cast a spotlight on the disproportionate market power of the few and the outsize gains going to the top 1% of the income distribution.

UNCTAD's research also shows that, for both developed and developing countries, integration into global value chains correlates with declining shares of domestic value-added in exports. The share of actual production in domestic value-added has also declined, as has the share of the remaining value-added accrued by labor. One potential driver of the latter trend is that, by drastically enlarging the global labor supply, the economic integration of countries with large populations like China and India has increased the bargaining power of capital relative to labor.

The only significant exception to these trends is China, which has designed industrial policies specifically to increase the share of domestic value-added and to improve workers' conditions. Ironically, it is these measures, which have helped offset some of the negative effects of free trade, that Trump has condemned in his pursuit of policies that will do little to protect workers.

But the implications of allowing a few global corporations to wield such vast market power extend further. For one thing, such concentrated economic power makes it more difficult for countries to industrialize, because local companies cannot expect to compete with established multinationals. For another, it prevents developing countries from reaping the full benefits of rising commodity prices, though they gain no protection from price downturns. The ability of large corporations to underprice natural resources also encourages excessive extraction, pollution, and environmental degradation outcomes that they disingenuously present as the "price of development."

Consumers also suffer. Yes, major multinationals can offer low prices. But their massive market power leaves consumers at their mercy in every sphere, from manufacturing to financial services to digital technologies.

The more power these companies have, the more they can accrue, as they use their influence to shape regulatory systems, economic policies, and even tax regimes. The result is a weakened state that serves the interests of the few, rather than protecting the many. Those who claim that redistribution can adequately address this problem must address the fact that the "losers" of free trade have so far received little, if any, compensation.

Globalization's detractors are right that free trade has created serious imbalances. But a trade war completely misses the point. The problem is not that free trade has led to too much global competition, but rather that it has enabled a few companies to secure monopolies or near-monopolies. This has given rise to massive inequalities, blatant rent-seeking, and predatory behavior. Only by addressing these trends can the benefits of trade be increased and equitably shared.

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With Sally H. Gaye Cell#: 0886726282 Email:sh0770291004@gmail.com

The Nation's Pride, Lone Star of Liberia played Democratic Republic of Congo on Sunday, 9 September in the 2019 Nations Cup Qualifiers to a 1-1 draw at the Samuel Kanyon Doe Sports Complex in Paynesville outside Monrovia. What do Liberians or sports lovers make of the game and the national team's performance?



Tension McAnthony Sherman

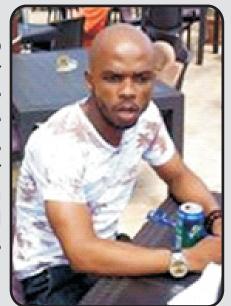
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"From the game yesterday, I'm confident Lonestar will enter Cameroon comes July next year, but the Technical Staff needs to have a rethink.. Blending or pairing players has been one of our problems.. Certain players are versatile but not all. Czech Republic-based Murphy Oscar Dorley is best suited as free-role

player; he's capable of changing the result of a game at any time with his breakthrough passes. Unfortunately, he was deployed in a position that requires him to do little pressing, which slowed his performance early in the second half. LISCR defensive midfielder Allen Neji's performance wasn't that bad but he needs to stop causing unnecessary tackles by holding on to the ball for long; technically, I think the Technical Staff erred by allowing Allen Neji to end the match, while Saah Nyuman was on bench.. It also astonishes me that striker Kpah Sherman wasn't introduced after substituting Laffor. Congratulations to Coach Thomas Kojo and his Technical Staff for the result."

Adolphus D. Dopoh

"The National Team play up to expectations; the error yesterday was caused by the goalkeeper. I will appreciate Thomas Kojo but these players need competition in order for us to get the best out of each starter; we gotta have a solid back-up two reserve players that can come in anytime and do exactly as the starter! Three players to each position



will keep players on their toes! Football is competition."

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Welcome To The New World

"People didn't criticize your decision, but those that were called were very good as well. Yes, he played because he needed to book his space, but for the next game. He's not a bad player and the coach had nothing against him but remember, football is something different. With small mistakes on the game, I still say the team did well. We need to play more games to keep the team fit Without games out

team fit. Without games out of CAF, FIFA and WAFU, we will not be going anywhere."



Neewray Bill

"I will ask the LFA and the Ministry of Youth and Sports to keep the current national teams, U-17, U,- 20 and the Senior national team; the coaches will work on them from now, and let them play more matches and tournaments together; we will have good results in two to three years. I am talking from the technical stand point. The

team's performance wasn't bad at all. Let use this time to appreciate Coach Thomas Kojo along with his technical staff and the entire playing body for a job well done. Let us keep the faith and concentrate on the next game."

Rockie Saywray

"For me, I think yesterday was Not a bad game at all, but we need to work on finishing and little improvement from the Technical Staff. But we need to work on our goalkeeper program. A country first chose can't show to us that he is the best and every game there will be a problem from goalkeeper. Tommy needs competitor, allowing a



ball to cross close range and resulted to goal is not the first time."



IV

115TH CONGRESS 2D Session

H. RES. 1055

To affirm strong United States-Liberia ties and support for democratic principles, and call for full implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission recommendations, including the establishment of an Extraordinary Criminal Tribunal for Liberia.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

September 7, 2018

Mr. Donovan (for himself and Mr. Johnson of Georgia) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

To affirm strong United States-Liberia ties and support for democratic principles, and call for full implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission recommendations, including the establishment of an Extraordinary Criminal Tribunal for Liberia.

Whereas today the United States is home to an estimated 80,000 people of Liberian ancestry in vibrant communities across the country, who have been instrumental in America's efforts to build a peaceful, democratic, and prosperous Liberia;

Whereas Liberia and the United States share close historical, political, and economic ties over the course of a nearly 200-year relationship;

3

Whereas the Government of Liberia has not fully implemented the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Agreement to date, including the establishment of an Extraordinary Criminal Tribunal;

Whereas Liberia experienced its first democratic and peaceful transition of power since 1944 after President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf respected constitutional term limits and George Weah defeated Vice President Joseph Boakai following a runoff during the 2017 Presidential elections;

Whereas the United States congratulated the people of Liberia on the successful conclusion of the Presidential runoff election and recognized the important role Liberia's Supreme Court, political parties, security forces, and civil society organizations played in holding a peaceful and transparent contest; and

Whereas the United States Government and American citizens have invested in Liberia to rebuild and support democratic institutions, postconflict recovery, economic growth, improved access to education and health care, professionalization of the country's military and civilian security forces, and efforts to foster accountability and transparency of government institutions: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) upholds its commitment to maintain and 3 foster the enduring relationship between the people

4 and the Governments of the United States and Libe-

5 ria;

(2) urges the Government and people of Liberia 6 7

to support the truth and reconciliation process

Whereas the people and Government of the United States have a deep interest in Liberia's democratic stability and postconflict development;

Whereas the civil war from 1991 to 2002 resulted in the death of over 200,000 people in Sierra Leone and Liberia, the displacement of over 1,000,000 persons, and the horrific cases of amputations, mass rape, and human rights abuses conducted under the leadership of Charles Taylor;

Whereas Charles Taylor was convicted through the Special Court for Sierra Leone for 11 different charges of war crimes, crimes against humanity, such as rape, sexual abuse, and slavery, and violation of international law, including the use of child soldiers;

Whereas a comprehensive peace agreement was signed by the Government of Liberia, rebel groups, and political parties in 2003;

Whereas the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, as established under the 2003 comprehensive peace agreement, was formally created in 2005 with a mandate "to promote national peace, security, unity and reconciliation by investigating gross human rights violations and violations of humanitarian law, sexual violations, and economic crimes that occurred between January 1979 and October 2003";

Whereas the Truth and Reconciliation Commission released a report in December 2008 recommending the establishment of an Extraordinary Criminal Tribunal for Liberia and listed individuals, corporations, and institutions recommended for further investigation and prosecution, among other recommendations;

•HRES 1055 IH

9

10

civil society.

1 through full implementation of the recommendations 2 of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, includ-3 ing the establishment of an Extraordinary Criminal 4 Tribunal; and 5 (3) supports efforts by the Department of State 6 and United States Agency for International Develop-7 ment to advance Liberian efforts toward national 8 reconciliation through continued support for the rule

0

of law, effective governance, and the robust role of

•HRES 1055 IH •HRES 1055 IH Received by NSD/FARA Registration Unit 08/22/2018 9:19:28 PM

OMB No. 1124-0006; Expires May 31, 2020

U.S. Department of Justice Washington, DC 20530

Exhibit A to Registration Statement

Pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended

INSTRUCTIONS. Furnish this exhibit for EACH foreign principal listed in an initial statement and for EACH additional foreign principal acquested subsequently. The filling of this document requires the payment of a filing fee as set forth in Rule (d)(1), 28 C.F.R. § 5.5(d)(1). Compliance is accomplished by filling an electronic Exhibit A form at https://www.fara.gov.

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Public Reporting Burden. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .49 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to Chief, Registration Unit, Counterintelligence and Export Control Section, National Security Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530; and to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

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3. Name of Foreign Principal	4. Principal Address of Foreign Princi	paĺ				
Republic of Liberia, Minister of Foreign Affairs	Capitol Hill Monrovia, Republic of Liberia					
5. Indicate whether your foreign principal is one of the follow	ving:					
☑ Government of a foreign country ¹						
☐ Foreign political party						
☐ Foreign or domestic organization: If either, check	one of the following:					
☐ Partnership	Committee					
☐ Corporation [☐ Voluntary group					
Association	Other (specify)	·				
☐ Individual-State nationality						
If the foreign principal is a foreign government, state: a) Branch or agency represented by the registrant						
Ministry of Foreign Affairs						
b) Name and title of official with whom registrant of	leals					
The Honorable Gbehzohngar Milton Findley						
7. If the foreign principal is a foreign political party, state: a) Principal address						

b) Name and title of official with whom registrant deals c) Principal aim

I "Government of a foreign country," as defined in Section 1(e) of the Act, includes any person or group of persons exercising sovereign de facto or de jure political jurisdiction over any country, other than the United States, or over any part of such country, and includes any subdivision of any such group and any group or agency to which such sovereign de facto or de jure authority or limetions are directly or indirectly delegated. Such terms shall include any faction or body of insurgents within a country assuming to exercise governmental authority whether such faction or body of insurgents has or has not been recognized by the United States.

FORM NSD-3 Revised 05/17

Received by NSD/FARA Registration Unit 08/22/2018 9:19:28 PM

Received by NSD/FARA Registration Unit 08/22/2018 9:19:17 PM

Washington, DC 20530

1. Name of Registrant

KRL International LLC

OMB No. 1124-0004; Expires May 31, 2020

Exhibit B to Registration Statement Pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of

1938, as amended

INSTRUCTIONS. A registrant must furnish as an Exhibit B copies of each written agreement and the terms and conditions of each oral agreements with his foreign principal, including all modifications of such agreements, or, where no contract exists, a full statement of all the circumstances be reason of which the registrant is acting as an agent of a foreign principal. Compliance is accomplished by filing an electronic Exhibit B form at

Privacy Act Statement. The filing of this document is required for the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, 22 U.S.C. § 611 et seg., for the purposes of registration under the Act and public disclosure. Provision of the information requested is mandatory, and failure to provide the information is subject to the penalty and enforcement provisions established in Section 8 of the Act. Every registration statement, short form registration statement, supplemental statement, exhibit, amendment, copy of informational materials or other document or information filed with the Attorney General under this Act is a public record open to public examination, inspection and copying during the posted business hours of the Registration Unit in Washington, DC. Statements are also available online at the Registration Unit is webpage: https://www.fara.gov. One copy of every such document, other than informational materials, is automatically provided to the Secretary of State pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Act, and copies of any and all documents are routinely made available to other agencies, departments and Congress pursuant to Section 6(c) of the Act. The Attorney General also transmits a semi-annual report to Congress on the administration of the Act which lists the names of all agents registered under the Act and the foreign principals they represent. This report is available to the public in print and online at: https://www.fara.gov.

Public Reporting Burden. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .33 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to Chief, Registration Unit, Counterintelligence and Export Control Section, National Security Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530; and to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

5788

2. Registration No.

Name of Foreign Principal Republic of Liberia Minister of Foreign Affairs				
	. ,			
Check Ap	ppropriate Box	<u>: </u>		
The agreement between the registrant and the above-nan checked, attach a copy of the contract to this exhibit.	ned foreign pri	ncipal is a form	al written contr	act. If this box is
5. There is no formal written contract between the registran		•		

- correspondence, including a copy of any initial proposal which has been adopted by reference in such correspondence.
- 6. The agreement or understanding between the registrant and the foreign principal is the result of neither a formal written contract nor an exchange of correspondence between the parties. If this box is checked, give a complete description below of the terms and conditions of the oral agreement or understanding, its duration, the fees and expenses, if any, to be received.
- 7. Describe fully the nature and method of performance of the above indicated agreement or understanding.

Will assist the Client in its mission to ensure continuing bilateral support for Liberia.

If the foreign print	ncipal is not a foreig	n government o	or a foreign polit	ical party:	,			
a) State the	e nature of the busir	ness or activity	of this foreign p	rincipal.				
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	oreign principal: by a foreign govern	ment, foreign n	political party, or	other foreign	principal		Yes [] No
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	by a foreign govern y a foreign governm							No No
Subsidized	in part by a foreign	government, fo	reign political p	arty, or other f	oreign princi	pal	Yes [] No
9. Explain fully all i	tems answered "Ye	s" in Item 8(b).	(If additional s	pace is needed	l, a full inseri	page must b	e used.)	
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contents are in their entirety true and accurate to the best of his/her knowledge and belief.

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	defined in Section 1(s) of the Act, means				
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Français

Le Congrès américain introduit un projet de loi portant création d'un tribunal des crimes de guerre au Libéria

n projet de loi portant création d'un tribunal des crimes de guerre au Libéria pour poursuivre les criminels de guerre et l'application intégrale des recommandations de la Commission Vérité et Réconciliation (CVR) a été introduit au Congrès américain.

Le projet de loi, nommé et intitulé US Congress H. Resolution 1055 - (115th Congress 2017-2018) a été présenté le vendredi 7 septembre 2018 par le représentant Daniel M. Donovan Jr., républicain de New York, et co-parrainé par le membre du Congrès Hank Johnson, démocrate, de Géorgie.

Selon le député Donovan Jr., le projet de loi vise à « affirmer les liens solides entre les États-Unis et le Libéria et à soutenir les principes démocratiques, et demander la mise en œuvre intégrale des



recommandations de la Commission vérité et réconciliation, y compris la création d'un tribunal des crimes de guerre pour le

Les rapports indiquent que

Libéria."

la décision prise par un membre du Congrès américain est la première indication tangible que les États-Unis et la communauté internationale sont prêts à faire face de manière décisive à la question

de l'impunité au Libéria.

Selon le West African Journal Magazine, le projet de loi du représentant Donovan a été adopté à la Chambre des représentants américaine et il a été transmis à la commission des affaires étrangères de la Chambre. Le membre du Congrès, Donovan, est un ancien procureur et avocat.

Il représente le 11ème district du Congrès qui couvre des parties du comté de Kings et du comté de Richmond au sud-est de New York. Il a été élu en 2015.

Selon les procédures en vigueur à la Chambre des représentants des États-Unis, les projets de loi sont généralement envoyés à la Bibliothèque du Congrès par le bureau d'édition du gouvernement un ou deux jours après leur introduction. Mais il est possible de retarder l'adoption des projets de loi lorsque le document à imprimer est important.

L'introduction du projet de loi intervient quelques jours après que les autorités françaises ont détenu un ancien commandant rebelle du Mouvement unifié de libération du Libéria pour la démocratie (ULIMO) pour crimes de guerre et crimes contre l'humanité, y compris

torture et cannibalisme, selon la police française vendredi.

Selon certaines informations, le criminel de guerre présumé identifié comme étant un citoyen néerlandais naturalisé, Kunti K., aurait été arrêté dans la banlieue nord-est de Paris, à Bobigny, où il se cachait chez une amie. Il est soupçonné de torture, d'assassinat, d'esclavage, d'utilisation d'enfants soldats et de cannibalisme entre 1993 et 1997.

ULIMO, formé par Alhaji G.V Kromah et d'autres vestiges du régime du président Samuel Doe, assassiné par le passé, a été créé pour contrer le Front national patriotique de Charles Taylor (NPFL).

Taylor purge actuellement une peine d'emprisonnement de 50 ans dans une prison du Royaume-Uni pour avoir encouragé des crimes de guerre et des crimes contre l'humanité en Sierra Leone et avoir commis des atrocités dans ce pays.

Depuis la fin de la guerre civile au Libéria, aucun auteur n'a été arrêté et puni sur ce territoire, malgré les appels à la poursuite de la part de la CVR. Cependant, des libériens ont été arrêtés et poursuivis au Royaume-Uni, aux États-Unis, en Belgique et maintenant en France.

La présentation du projet de loi intervient également suite aux pressions croissantes de la part de 75 organisations non gouvernementales internationales, du Groupe international de la justice à l'organisation dénommée Libériens pour la création d'un tribunal des crimes de guerre.

Le président Weah devrait prendre la parole devant l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies ce mois-ci à New York. Il existe déjà des informations selon lesquelles certains Libériens prévoient de manifester pacifiquement pour demander la création d'un tribunal des crimes de

Table Ronde d'Abidjan : Que la BADEA aligne sa stratégie 2030 sur les stratégies pays

a Table ronde ministérielle sur la ■stratégie 2030 de la Banque Arabe de Développement (BADEA) a pris fin ce 9 septembre 2018 à Abidjan. L'on retiendra de cette table ronde la proposition faite par les Etats africains à la BADEA d'aligner sa stratégie 2030 sur les stratégies pays.

Cela aura pour avantage de rendre plus efficiente l'intervention de la BADEA auprès de ces Etats. La Ministre ivoirienne du Plan et du Développement Kaba Nialé a indiqué que les discussions ont abouti à des propositions dont la mise en œuvre devrait permettre de parvenir à l'élaboration d'une stratégie plus adéquate pour les pays de l'Afrique subsaharienne. "Les débats s'acheminent vers l'élaboration de programmes



pays", a dit la ministre ivoirienne. Qui a aussi indiqué que les discussions ont porté sur les questions du financement à destination à la fois de l'Etat et du secteur privé.

Si cette rencontre a été

l'occasion de faire le bilan de 40 ans de coopération entre l'institution et les pays africains, elle a servi de cadre à des réflexions sur les perspectives. "Le bilan est partagé. Nous avons vu les acquis mais également les perspectives pour renforcer la coopération entre la BADEA et les pays africains. La BADEA devra aligner sa stratégie sur les stratégies pays", s'est exprimée Rosine Sori Coulibaly, la ministre de l'Economie et des Finances du Burkina Faso. Poursuivant, elle a estimé que les interventions de la BADEA doivent s'accentuer dans les secteurs des PME, l'appui aux jeunes et aux femmes, les infrastructures, les mécanismes et outils de financement des économies, la question du secteur privé, et sur les aspects de gouvernance.

Le Directeur général de la BADEA s'est félicité de la

traduits G. Guhéna nn10@yahoo.com 0881483394

qualité des discussions au cours de cette table ronde. Il a salué la pertinence des propositions faites par les ministres et a promis les rapporter au Conseil d'administration. La prochaine étape dans les consultations en vue de l'élaboration de la

stratégie 2030 de la BADEA, sera la table ronde avec le secteur privé prévue au mois de novembre 2018. Il a annoncé le démarrage de nouveaux produits de la BADEA dès 2019.

Par Alexandra Borchardt

Affaire de billet d'avion : encore des zones d'ombre

e ministère des Finances et de la Planification du développement se défend habilement en disant ∎n'avoir changé le billet d'avion du ministre des Finances, Sameul D. Tweah, en classe première au prix supplémentaire de 16 000 dollars américains.

Dans un communiqué de presse, le Ministère a précisé clairement qu'il n'a en aucune manière violé la loi révisée de 2016/2017 sur les voyages officiels en ce qui concerne le voyage officiel du ministre des Finances en Chine.

Selon le communiqué, l'achat du billet d'avion du ministre pour se rendre en Chine était conforme à l'ordonnance révisée de 2016/2017 sur le voyage des représentants du gouvernement du Libéria, qui modifiait la classe des voyages du ministre des finances et de la planification du développement et du ministre des affaires étrangères de la classe éco à la classe affaires.

Mais qui a changé le billet d'avion du ministre Tweah en classe première à bord de l'avion de la compagnie aérienne Emery Air à un coût supplémentaire de 16 000 dollars?

Voilà toute la question à laquelle le ministère des Finances et de la Planification du développement n'a pas pu répondre. Il n'a fait qu'expliquer que les fonctionnaires d'Etat qui voyagent pour le compte de l'Etat à l'étranger sont libres de changer leur billet à leurs propres frais.

Il semblerait tout à fait absurde que le ministre des Finances qui est en mission officielle de l'État utilise son propre argent pour changer son billet d'avion officiel acheté par l'Etat du Libéria en classe première.

C'est du jamais vu, en plus le ministre Tweah n'est pas si riche pour entreprendre une telle aventure. Pourtant le gouvernement veut nous faire croire qu'il l'a fait à ses propres frais.

En outre, le ministère dit n'avoir aucune connaissance du prétendu billet d'avion publié par FrontPage Africa dans l'une de ses dernières éditions. Selon le quotidien le billet d'avion en question appartient au ministre Tweah qui l'aurait acheté auprès de Worldwide Air Service à Osu, au Ghana. Mais le ministère a fait valoir que le billet authentique du ministre Samuel D Tweah pour son voyage en Chine a été acheté à Jos Travels and Tours, Inc. à Monrovia.

Nous sommes d'accord avec cette précision, mais la question qui reste posée est de savoir où le ministre a changé son billet d'avion en classe première? Était-ce à Accra ou à Monrovia ? Il faut quelqu'un du ministère des Finances apporte des précisions?

Nous soulevons ces préoccupations parce que le ministre Samuel D. Tweah n'est pas un simple citoyen, et il n'a pas non plus fait une visite privée en Chine, mais pour représenter l'Etat et le peuple de la République du Libéria.

Le retour du journalisme

XFORD - L'industrie des médias, dont la santé a été chancelante pendant de longues années, semble peu à peu se remettre. Selon le rapport Digital News Report 2018 - l'étude comparative globale et exhaustive sur la consommation d'actualités en ligne dans le monde - les abonnements sont en hausse et la confiance des utilisateurs s'est stabilisée. Pour une industrie tant vilipendée, ces modestes gains représentent un progrès substantiel.

Certes, les médias ne sont pas tirés d'affaire pour autant. Ce rapport de l'Institut Reuters pour l'étude du journalisme montre que 44 pour cent seulement des personnes interrogées croient ce que publient les médias à la réputation bien établie. Ce chiffre correspond toutefois à une progression d'un point de pourcentage par rapport à l'an dernier, laissant penser que le manque de confiance envers l'industrie a cessé de s'aggraver ou même qu'il diminue.

D'autres études sont encore plus optimistes. Le baromètre de confiance établi par l'agence Edelman indique que les journalistes ont regagné en crédibilité et que la confiance moyenne envers le journalisme traditionnel et en ligne est au plus haut point depuis sept ans, des résultats qui ont incité cette agence à déclarer que « le retour des experts » était imminent.

S'il est sans doute trop tôt pour que les responsables des médias crient victoire, ces signes sont encourageants pour une industrie dont la réputation a été autant malmenée ces dernières années. La polarisation politique a rendu les gens méfiants des supports médiatiques qui ne partagent pas leurs opinions, en même temps que les réductions de coûts dans les rédactions ont dégradé la qualité des informations proposées. Il semble toutefois, comme le suggèrent ces nouveaux chiffres, que les journalistes ont trouvé le moyen de relever ces défis.

La tendance la plus révélatrice du Digital News Report de cette année est peut-être la méfiance croissante des utilisateurs envers les informations partagées via les médias sociaux. Lorsque les lecteurs sont prêts à payer pour un L'étude montre par exemple que 23 pour cent seulement des personnes sondées ont confiance dans les informations trouvées sur les médias sociaux et 34 pour cent seulement d'entre elles croient aux informations trouvées grâce aux moteurs de recherche. Ces chiffres devraient sans doute inquiéter Google, Facebook et d'autres géants du secteur dont les activités dépendent tout autant de la confiance des internautes que celles des médias traditionnels.

Alors que les plateformes numériques comme Facebook trébuchent, plusieurs médias traditionnels ont trouvé leurs marques, comme l'attestent la hausse des abonnements. Sur les 74.000 personnes interrogées, 14 pour cent ont indiqué avoir payé pour des informations en ligne au moins une fois au cours de l'année écoulée, avec une moyenne approchant 30 pour cent dans les pays nordiques. Aux États-Unis, les attaques du président Donald Trump contre ce qu'il appelle les médias des « fake news » ont incité plus de personnes que jamais auparavant à soutenir un journalisme indépendant. En 2016 par exemple, 9 pour cent seulement des Américains avaient payé pour des contenus journalistiques en ligne, contre 16 pour cent en 2017, un chiffre resté stable cette année.

Même dans des pays comme le Royaume-Uni, qui ne manque pas de sites d'actualité en ligne gratuits, les gens investissent dans des informations de qualité. Le choix fait par le quotidien britannique The Guardian de conserver l'accès gratuit à son site en ligne, tout en donnant aux lecteurs la possibilité de faire des contributions volontaires, lui a permis de redresser sa situation financière. Les jeunes se situant sur la gauche de l'échiquier politique sont les plus enclins à payer pour des informations en ligne, dans presque tous les pays couverts par l'étude.

Certains critiques affirment que l'accès payant à des sites d'informations va à l'encontre de l'esprit originel de l'internet comme espace de libre échange d'idées, de nouvelles et d'informations. Rendre les meilleures histoires uniquement accessibles par abonnement, disent-ils, donnera naissance à des informations de second ordre pour des citoyens de seconde zone.

Ce point de vue ignore cependant trois points clés. Tout d'abord, le nombre de personnes connectées qui n'ont pas les moyens de payer pour des informations est sans doute extrêmement faible; être prêt à payer est davantage une question de priorités en matière de dépenses. Par ailleurs, payer pour ce qui est perçu comme ayant de la valeur contribue à lui en donner, un fait illustré par les contributions volontaires par rapport à l'approche purement transactionnelle.

Enfin, pour les individus qui ne sont réellement pas en mesure de payer, il existe des options viables qui permettent à des foyers à faible revenu d'accéder à un journalisme de qualité. Par exemple, les régimes fiscaux pourraient être réformés pour rendre la pratique du journalisme plus abordable et des financements de la part de fondations ou des gouvernements pourraient contribuer à la programmation de médias publics.

contenu, les journalistes sont incités à fournir un produit de qualité. Ils portent un œil critique sur leur travail, vérifient strictement les faits, innovent, enquêtent et réduisent autant que possible les contenus sensationnalistes bon marché qui envahissent de nombreux médias sociaux. Mieux encore, ces tendances se renforcent mutuellement : plus le journalisme est de qualité, plus les lecteurs lui attachent de l'importance.

Cela faisait longtemps que l'industrie des médias n'avait pas eu l'occasion de rendre compte de bonnes nouvelles la concernant. Et maintenant que c'est le cas, il est impératif que nous déployions plus d'efforts que jamais pour amplifier la tendance à la qualité, la crédibilité et la viabilité financière.

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MYS launches 2018 Cadet Program

he Government of Liberia (GoL) through the Ministry of Youth and Sports or MYS with support from Mercy Corps launches the 2018 National Cadet Program.

The official launch was held Monday, September 10, at the Ministry in Paynesville, outside Monrovia.

Youth and Sports Minister, D. Zeogar Wilson, says considering the high unemployment rate among the youthful population, government through the

recommends that government supports and legislates programs aimed at creating employment possibilities for youth.

By this means, he points out; succeeding government would live up to existing laws to support various youth programs in the country.

He urges successful applicants for the 2018 National Cadet Program to be disciplined and committed to whatever duty they would be assigned to.



Ministry of Youth and Sports must strive to prioritize programs that are geared to creating empowerment and employment for young people.

"We, as a government must provide means for the empowerment of young people in the country. There must be government programs that support youth employment and empowerment," Minister Wilson stresses.

In order to create greater space for youth employment and empowerment, he

"My warning to you is that you must do your best at wherever you would be assigned. You must be disciplined as well, because this is the hallmark to success," the minister underscores.

Mercy Corps Country Director, Kwasi Gyeabour, says support provided towards the cadet program by his institutions is geared towards building young people for a prosperous future.

He recounts that since

2013, the program has yielded tangible results, as many youth who enrolled, have been gainfully employed at different places.

"Since we began supporting the program through support from the Embassy of Sweden, the results are very good," he

He discloses plans to expand the program to other parts of the country, noting that Nimba and Bong Counties are being earmarked.

Deputy Minister for Youth Development Isaac N. Doe, describes the National Cadet Program as one of government's frontline initiatives to combat under empowerment and unemployment confronting young Liberians.

Deputy Minister Doe reveals that since its reintroduction in 2009, an estimated 526 young Liberians have benefited from the program, and that out of that number, 236 beneficiaries representing 45 percent have led to permanent employment.

Of this number, he says 112 or 47 percent of those employed are females, while 214 or 53 percent are males.

The Coordinator of the National Cadet Program, Samuel K. Mappy, IV, discloses that 200 out of a total of 1,680 applicants would be selected after thorough review of their applications.

"We look at the issue of job experience, because this program is intended to give our youth first hand job readiness," Mappy concludes. Editing by Jonathan Browne

--Says Cuba Embassy

he Cuban Embassy in Monrovia obstacles imposed by Washington for banking transactions 'extremely limit' Cubana de Aviacion's performance as an airline.

In a report issued Monday, 10 September, the Embassy says Cuba is experiencing serious difficulties in buying or leasing aircraft with technical components due to US blockade on the country.

The Embassy says the country is experiencing serious difficulties in buying or leasing aircraft with technical components of practically any technology due to the economic, financial and commercial blockade placed by the United States.

Chargé d'Affaires Yordenis Despaigne Vera reported here that the extraterritorial effect of the sanctions makes it impossible for the company to access aircraft produced by companies such as Airbus, Dassault and Boeing.

The report shows that Cubana de Aviacion cannot carry out the maintenance of the equipment in specialized agencies of many countries.

As a result of the blockade, the report notes that the entity cannot benefit from possible permits for the acquisition or lease of aircraft in the United States, as well as for the purchase of pieces.

These transactions are not viable from the commercial and financial point of view due to the permanence of the set of

laws and additional regulations of the blockade, the Cuban Ministry of Foreign Affairs says.

Cuba says the impact of these measures on the safety of flights, the stability of the airline and its chances of survival is evident.

In general, it says transportation is among the most affected sectors: from April 2017 to March 2018, damages from the blockade rising to 101,550,000 dollars were reported.

The report indicates further that the blockade touches all fields of the Cuban society and its impact in current lives for the Cubans is undeniable.

It notes that the economic repercussion on the Cuban people due to the application of the economic, commercial and financial blockade of the United States of America against Cuba during the last 50 years amount for over USD \$125, 873,000,000 at current prices.

Meanwhile the report says the economic, financial and commercial blockade imposed by the United States on Cuba causes multimillion limitations on the island's culture, according to the annual report.

The damage on Cuba's cultural system is visible in all its manifestations, meetings and exchanges between Cuban artists and their US counterparts have been decreasing, the report concludes.--Edited by Winston W. Parley

MD Twehway envisages vibrant port sector

ational Port Authority (NPA) Managing Director Bill Twehway says he envisages a port where importers and citizens of neighboring countries will have quality services through an inter trade facilitation to foster growth and development.

According to a press release, Mr. Twehway made the disclosure when he paid an assessment visit at the Port of Buchanan over the weekend.

It says Mr. Twehway has assured government's commitment to developing a more vibrant port sector that will enhance trade and economic prosperity in Liberia.

Mr. Twehway says President George Manneh Weah is passionate about developing all sectors of Liberia, including the seaports.

The newly appointed NPA Boss makes particular reference to the Port of County which he says will be considered the new transshipment trade corridor for the country.

He indicates that as part of

government's vision to improve commerce and trade, plans are underway to Buchanan in Grand Bassa modernize the Port of Buchanan.

According to him, this will create competition and ease the challenges

associated with importing



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and clearing of goods in the

Mr. Twehway says the Port of Buchanan when developed, will be used as the main trans rail corridor for the shipment of Guinean minerals to Liberia.

"This port will be prioritized and developed so our citizens and port users will not import their goods through other ports or travel to Guinea by road just to make use of that port because of the services," he assures.

Rather, Mr. Twehway says the Weah led- government expects its port to be a rail transshipment corridor so as to enhance trade, create jobs and boom the economy.

Speaking earlier in separate remarks, the Co-Chairman of the Board of Directors Bishop Matthew Gweh urged the employees to be loval and committed to the entity.

Deputy Managing Director for Operations Christopher Wisner also pledged cooperative teamwork, exuberance and passion to duty as a hallmark for successful administration.

Port Manager Oretha Myers and the local county officials who also spoke during Mr. Twehway's assessment visit committed their fullest support to the accomplishment of the government's vision for the port.--Press release

U.S. Congress urges Liberians

he House of Representatives of the United States Congress urges the Government and people of Liberia to support the truth and reconciliation process through full implementation of the recommendations of the TRC, including the establishment of an Extraordinary Criminal Tribunal for the country to prosecute war criminals and perpetrators of crimes against humanity.

The is contained in a resolution, named and styled US Congress H. Resolution 1055 - (115th Congress 2017-2018) introduced on Friday September 7, 2018 by Representative Daniel M. Donovan Jr., a Republican from New York, and Co-sponsored by Congressman Hank Johnson, Democrat, from Georgia.

Resolution 1055 was issued in the 2nd Session of the 115th Congress of the United States,



the first public initiative by some members of Congress to have a war crime tribunal established for Liberia.

Both Congressmen Donovan, Jr. and Johnson maintain that they supports efforts by the U.S. Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development or USAID to advance Liberian efforts

toward national reconciliation through continued support for the rule of law, effective governance, and the robust role of civil society.

The House of Representatives of the United States says it upholds its commitment to maintain and foster the enduring relationship between the people and the Governments of the United States and Liberia.

The U.S. House has referred the resolution to its Committee on Foreign Affairs.

The document notes that today, the United States is home to an estimated

80,000 people of Liberian ancestry in vibrant communities across America, who have been instrumental in the U.S.'s efforts to build a peaceful, democratic, and prosperous Liberia; and that both countries share close historical, political, and economic ties over the course of a nearly

200-year relationship.

It says the people and Government of the United States have a deep interest in Liberia's democratic stability and post-conflict development. Story by Jonathan Browne Read full detail of Resolution 1055 on pages 6 & 7

Snowe threatens legal action

By Winston W. Parley

Representative Edwin Melvin Snowe says he will take the necessary legal action against combative Deputy Information Minister Eugene Fahngon, in response to insults and verbal attacks against the lawmaker.

"And I'm trying to exercise restraints. I'm going to take legal action I'm not going to leave that, no matter what. I'm going to take the necessary legal action," Rep. Snowe said Monday, 10 September via mobile on a live talk show on

tearing a police commander's shirt, and ordering the lawmaker to "ask the damn law."

The drama ensued during the weekend when Fahngon verbally attacked Snowe for allegedly attempting to release from police custody Kelvin D.J. Matadi, who had been complained by Fahngon.

Fahngon had suspected being photographed by Kelvin while dancing at an entertainment center, demanding Kelvin to delete the photo from his phone.

In the process, Mr. Fahngon invited police officers and

the picture when he got the information that Kelvin, who works at the Capitol, was in police custody.

Snowe says he tried making intervention by calling Fahngon, the NSA authority but it did not help in the process.

The lawmaker says he proceeded to the depot and got engaged by Fahngon, receiving verbal attacks from the Minister.

After officers jailed Kelvin, Fahngon brags that "this is the CDC led - government" and "this the new president that we have."

Fahngon says "this is not Taylor's government, this is not Ellen's government" where Snowe allegedly made his millions of dollars of "stolen wealth."

According to him, Snowe has been in government in Taylor's time and in Ellen's time, adding that this is not UP government and this is not Charles Taylor government.

"You have torn Liberian Government uniform, as a Representative; you can only stay in Liberia," Fahngon continues his accusation against Snowe.

He says Snowe would have been cuffed and jailed if it were in the United States.

"Damn you, damn you again," Fahngon says, telling Snowe "you are a Unity Partisan, I am a CDCian."

Fahngon claims that Snowe ordered his men to forcibly pull Kelvin out of the police cell, but the lawmaker denies this and Mr. Fahngon's video is yet to show this part of the drama.

"You say you a lawmaker?

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Man kills himself

Starts from back page

Following police investigation, a 15 - man coroner jury was set up by the police to physically examine the body. The 15 man coroner jury reported that there was no foul associated with the death of Beah.

The coroner jury however confirmed that a pasties bottle was found at the deceased's bedside which he may have used to commit suicide.

The community Chairman of Rubber Factory community

Quarter #1, Peter Womah has expressed shock and disappointment over Beah's action.

The chairman says he especially shocked that the deceased is leaving behind his three children in the community.

Meanwhile, the LNP has ordered the bereaved family members to bury the corpse of Beah as soon as possible.-- Edited by Winston W. Parley





Prime Fm Radio.

Mr. Snowe makes known his next course of action against Mr. Fahngon, days after the lawmaker publicly suffered verbal attacks, insults and damning accusations from the Deputy Information Minister.

In Fahngon's video that he shared on social media, he is heard accusing Snowe of agents from the National Security Agency (NSA) who took Kelvin to a police depot in Monrovia.

At the police station, Fahngon says he wrote a short statement and departed, but Kelvin requested to make a call when officers asked him to make statement.

Rep. Snowe says he came in

You say you a lawmaker? I will disown you tomorrow. You will never be my representative," Fahngon tells Snowe in the video.

Pointing his finger at the lawmaker's face, Fahngon warns that "it's nonsense" that Snowe would go at the police station and have police officers beaten up.

He says if Snowe ever attacks any police officer, "we are coming back," adding that when they are coming back "hell is coming with us."

"Because you honorable, the President will hear the story. I'm from the Executive Branch," Fahngon says and continues that "we are here to enforce the law."

Fanhgon argues that he is accused by Snowe of taking Kelvin's phone, but he insists that it was the law that took Kelvin's phone.

In the video, Fahngon is seen insulting and warning the lawmaker to "never, ever try that nonsense to me."

During the engagement with Mr. Fahngon, Rep. Snowe says he recorded everything because he knew this day would have come.

Snowe says he was not the only lawmaker being insulted by Fahngon, but he astonishingly witnessed the combative deputy minister telling a CDC lawmaker Acarous Gray too that he fought for this revolution.

"Can you imagine Eugene telling Acarous Gray we fought for this ... revolution. This is a CDC thing," Snowe says and wonders "since when" Eugene became more CDCian that Rep. Gray.

Mr. Snowe dismisses Fahngon's claim that he (Snowe) attacked a police officer and tore his uniform in attempt to release Kelvin D.J. Matadi from police custody. - Editing by Jonathan Browne





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Man kills himself for sexp



By Joseph Titus Yekeryan in Bong

40 - year - old man identified as Dorwam Beah has allegedly committed suicide in Gbarnga, Bong County following series of complaints that his fiancée always denied him sex.

Our correspondent says Beah's lifeless body was discovered Monday morning, 10 September in his bedroom in the Rubber Factory Community of Gbarnga, Bong County Popularly known as D1, Beah's lifeless body was discovered in his bedroom in the community with pasties bottle on the deceased's bedside on Monday morning, 10 September.

Beah is thought to have used the pasties to allegedly kill himself.

Some eyewitnesses in the Rubber Factory Community Quarter #1 told our Bong County correspondent on Monday that prior to his death, Beah constantly complained about his fiancée only identified as Mary.

The deceased is said to have always complained that his fiancée refused to have sexual intercourse with him.

Some eyewitnesses think that the deceased killed himself because his fiancée denied him sex.

"He recently complained his girlfriend to me about sex, which I intervened. But the girl only identified as Mary has not given him the time to make love," Krubah Kondo, a resident of the community tells our correspondent.

Beah's close neighbors say he was involved in repairing of motorbike tires to earn money in the community.

His death has generated grief among residents in the area.

The Crime Services Division (CSD) of the Liberia National Police (LNP) in Bong County has investigated circumstances leading to the

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Portugal boss Santos backs Ronaldo to find scoring form

ristiano Ronaldo's misfiring start to his Juventus career will not last long, according to Portugal head coach Fernando Santos

Ronaldo is yet to score in Serie A despite playing full matches against Chievo, Lazio and Parma.

Questions have been raised as to whether Juve may have been misguided in paying €112million to sign him from Real Madrid.

Santos, though, offered reassuring words to the superstar forward, telling a news conference: "Wait a little and you will see the goals that Ronaldo will score."

The 33-year-old will miss Portugal's Nations League opener against Italy on Monday after opting to skip the international break.

Ronaldo's absence was keenly felt during the recent friendly draw with Croatia as Andre Silva failed to impress with a chance to lead the line.

death of Beah.

Santos remains certain Portugal still have enough quality to mix it with an Azzurri side that was held 1-1 by Poland

"The players have great confidence and great ability, but we also know the quality of Italy," Santos said.

"We know they have a great desire to avenge missing the World Cup and want to show their value in this new competition.



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