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TRULY INDEPENDENT
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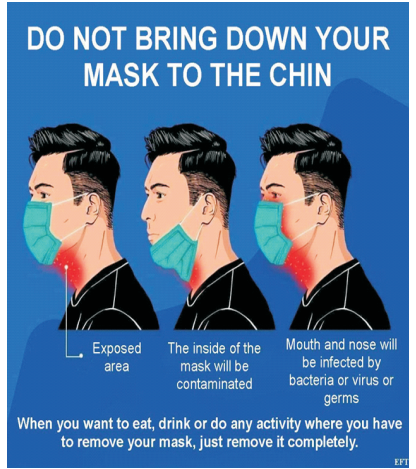
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TRULY INDEPENDENT

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Test scandal busted at NPHIL



NPHIL Boss, Dr. Makosa Fallah

-three officials suspended



Chairman Morlu pays tribute to the late Rep. Youngblood

CDC unveils Munah's will

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Continental News

Malawi Makes Masks Mandatory in COVID-19 Fight

Malawi has made wearing masks mandatory in public places in an effort to curb a surge in COVID-19 cases.

The Presidential Task Force on COVID-19 said the rule went into effect Friday night, and those who do not adhere to it will pay a fine of about \$15. Some rights activists, however, say the government should have first distributed free masks to make the rule justifiable.

The mandate on face coverings is among various measures Malawi has taken to try to contain the COVID-19 surge. Other steps include barring traffic police from touching a driver's license or any other documents.

All markets, shops and businesses that are in close proximity to hospitals have been ordered to close.

The government also has banned public gatherings, such as weddings, parties and bridal showers.

The restrictions come as Malawi continues to confirm increasing cases of COVID-19, with an average of 100 cases

per day. As of Saturday, Malawi had registered 4,575 coronavirus cases with 137 deaths.

Health rights campaigners commend the measures but say they raise more questions than answers.

George Jobe, executive director of the Malawi Health Equity Network, said that "as we

are hearing that the masks will be compulsory, the question will be: What will follow if someone fails to pay prescribed fees?"

Jobe also said the rules have failed to address whether the government will provide free masks to people who cannot afford to buy them.

According to U.N. data, about 70% of Malawi's population lives below the international poverty line of \$1.90 per day.

Hilda Kalonga, a subsistence farmer in the Thyolo district in southern Malawi, told VOA she has not worn a mask since Malawi registered its first three COVID-19 cases April 2.

"I cannot manage to buy a mask because I cannot get money to buy one," she said. "It would make sense should the government start distributing masks for free before it made the wearing of

masks compulsory."

John Phuka, chairperson of the Presidential Task Force on COVID-19, told VOA on Saturday that the government already had signed a memorandum of understanding with local mask manufacturers to start distributing free masks to those who cannot afford them.

Phuka said those flouting the rule would pay a fine of about \$15.

In the meantime, Phuka said, law enforcement officers have been given permission to use "reasonable force" to enforce compliance. VOA



A fabrics trader and her child wear face masks to guard against the new coronavirus

'Aggressive action' needed as Africa cases pass 1m



"Aggressive and bold" action is needed as Africa's coronavirus cases pass the one-million mark, according to the African Union (AU) body dealing with the pandemic.

It says South Africa - where testing has been widespread - accounts for more than half of all cases.

Tanzania's lack of data meanwhile is a "concern" for the AU. Experts say a lack of comprehensive testing across Africa means the true extent of the pandemic is not known.

Tanzania, for example, has not published figures for weeks and in early July its health minister said the virus was "heading towards an end". "We continue to reach out [to

Tanzania] but we're not having the right responses," director of the AU's Centres for Disease and Control and Prevention (Africa CDC), Dr John Nkengasong, told the BBC. In the continent overall, more than 22,000 people have died with Covid-19 and almost 690,000 people have recovered, the figures show.

Just over eight million tests have been carried out, but Dr Nkengasong said at least 13 million tests should have taken place.

Africa's first coronavirus case was confirmed in Egypt in February - three weeks after Europe, and two months after the outbreak began in China in December. BBC

Volunteers race to keep oil spill away from Mauritius

Volunteers in Mauritius are scrambling to create cordons to keep leaking oil from a tanker away from the island.

The MV Wakashio, believed to have been carrying 4,000 tonnes of oil, ran aground on a coral reef off the Indian Ocean island on 25 July.

Locals are making absorbent barriers of straw stuffed into fabric sacks in an attempt to contain and

absorb the oil.

Mauritius is home to world-renowned coral reefs, and tourism is a crucial part of its economy.

Images posted online by local media show volunteers collecting straw from fields and filling sacks to make barriers. Others have been making their own tubes with tights and hair to add to the effort and some have been cleaning up the island's beaches.

Their actions go against an order from the government asking people to leave the clean-up to local authorities.

"People have realised that they need to take things into their hands. We are here to protect our fauna and flora," environmental activist Ashok Subron told AFP news agency. Mitsui OSK Lines, the operator of the ship, said it had tried to place its own containment booms around the vessel but had not been successful owing to rough seas.

Helicopters are attempting to move some of the fuel and diesel off the ship. It is thought that the ship, registered in Panama, had some 4,000 tonnes of fuel aboard when it ran aground. All crew were evacuated.

At least 1,000 tonnes of oil is thought to have leaked into the waters surrounding the island nation. Environmentalists are concerned about the impact on the country's ecosystem.

The ship ran aground at Pointe d'Esny, a known sanctuary for rare wildlife. The area also contains

wetlands designated as a site of international importance by the Ramsar convention on wetlands.

Happy Khamule from Greenpeace Africa warned that "thousands" of animal species were "at risk of drowning in a sea of pollution, with dire consequences for Mauritius' economy, food security and health". In a news conference, Akihiko Ono, executive vice president of Mitsui OSK Lines "profusely" apologised for the spill and for "the great trouble we have

caused".

He vowed that the company would do "everything in their power to resolve the issue".

Police in Mauritius say they have been granted a search warrant, allowing them to board the vessel take away items of interest such as the ship's log book in order to help with an investigation. The ship's captain will assist officers with their search.

On Friday, Mauritian Prime Minister Pravind Jugnauth declared a state of emergency and appealed for help. BBC



At least 1,000 tonnes of oil is thought to have leaked into waters near Mauritius

EDITORIAL

Bring the Zwedru's violence perpetrators to book speedily

FOREIGN MISSIONS IN Liberia recently called on the Weah administration to swiftly investigate the July 30 political violence in Zwedru, Grand Gedeh County in an objective and non-partisan manner to bring all those culpable to justice.

THEY UNDERSCORED THAT such action will send a clear signal that threats and violence have no place in the democratic dispensation the people of Liberia have established for their country.

THE UNITED NATIONS, ECOWAS, United States Embassy and the European Union in a joint statement issued in Monrovia expressed support for concern expressed by several Liberian groups specifically, the Inter-Religious Council, the Catholic Diocese of Cape Palmas, the Providence Baptist Church, the Grand Gedeh Legislative Caucus and other religious and political stakeholders, including President George Manneh Weah and his Government, over use of hate speech and mob violence, particularly recent violent attack against opposition politicians in Zwedru, Grand Gedeh County.

IT IS ALMOST two weeks since hundreds of stone-throwing youths believed to be from the youth league of the governing Congress for Democratic Change chapter in Zwedru City, Grand Gedeh County besieged a local entertainment center, B-2 Guesthouse in the city on Thursday, 30 July and prevented the Chairman of the Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) Alexander B. Cummings and Montserrado County District#10 Representative Yekeh Kolubah from stepping outside.

FOR MORE THAN five hours, angry youths joined by thugs armed with stones, sticks and cutlasses, attacked the guesthouse entertainment center, Hotel B-2 in the heart of Zwedru City, where Chairman Cummings, Representative Kolubah and members of their delegation lodged, threatening to lynch Rep. Kolubah for constantly ranting invectives at President George Manneh Weah, but Joint Security forces, led by troops of the Armed Forces of Liberia intervened, providing corridor for the opposition politicians to leave the county, known for its strong support for President Weah and his ruling Coalition for Democratic Change.

NEITHER THE RULING Coalition for Democratic Change nor the Government of Liberia condemned the violence immediately. It took President George Weah four days before he commented while attending worship at his own church, calling on his supporters not to engage in violence.

BUT WE JOIN the Foreign Missions in their call for speedy and impartial investigation to bring all those responsible before the law and allow justice to prevail. This would serve as deterrence to future attempt by any group to disrupt the current peace thru political violence.

WITH BARELY THREE months to midterm senatorial elections across Liberia on December 8, 2020, if the Zwedru's violence is swept under the rug like two previous bloody electoral violence in Montserrado County Electoral District#13 and District#15 respectively, it could send a very strong signal of what to expect in the pending polls.

WE DON'T WANT a continuous repeat of such attitude in our political dispensation that has a propensity to reverse the gains achieved in restoring this country to democratic governance and stability with help of the international community.

WE BELIEVE IT is in this light that the Foreign Missions called on the Weah administration to investigate speedily with objectivity and bring the matter to close so that the government would not be suspected of complacency, and by extension, condoning violent acts.

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COMMENTARY

By Ian Buruma

Trump's Hypocrisy on China

US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo recently called Richard Nixon's opening to China almost 50 years ago a failure, and went on to declare a virtual cold war against the Chinese. But Trump's blustering unilateralism and contempt for democratically elected leaders have left the US unable to forge the alliances Pompeo rightly says it needs.

NEW YORK - In a speech last month at the Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum, US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo declared politely that Nixon had been wrong about China. Opening up to the People's Republic, in the hope that its Maoist dictatorship, moderated by a warm international embrace, would become freer at home and more cooperative abroad, has ended in failure.

In fact, Nixon never sought to democratize China - he needed Mao's help to end the Vietnam War and gain leverage over the Soviet Union.

Still, Pompeo's indictment was long. China is less free now than it was in the 1980s, he claimed. It steals Western industrial secrets, sends government agents masquerading as students, stifles criticism with threats, locks up ethnic minorities and dissidents in concentration camps, blackmails countries into buying Chinese technology used to spy on the United States, and so on. "The free world must triumph over the new tyranny," Pompeo declared. "We, the freedom-loving nations, must induce China to change..."

Could he be correct about this? Might US President Donald Trump's administration be on the right side of history at least in this respect? Does China represent an existential threat to the "free world"?

If so, the Trump administration has been remarkably hypocritical. Trump himself has called Chinese President Xi Jinping his good friend on several occasions, and patently refused to criticize him for ignoring human rights, locking up political prisoners, or undermining the rule of law in Hong Kong.

But the administration's hypocrisy does not necessarily mean that Pompeo was wrong about China. The gist of what he said is true. The Communist Party of China (CPC) maintains a dictatorship at home and is often hostile to democracies abroad.

There is, of course, a limit to how much the "free world" can do to change China's domestic politics, however abhorrent they may be. China is too powerful, economic interests are too important, and the risks of turning a cold war into a hot one are too formidable. Only the Chinese can possibly break the CPC's monopoly on power in their country. To advocate "regime change" by external force would be insane.

But there are good reasons to try to minimize the harm China can do to domestic arrangements in less oppressive countries. There is much evidence that Chinese pressure can harm one of the pillars of democratic societies: the right to free speech and expression.

Western institutions that rely on Chinese financial support, or the Chinese market, are particularly vulnerable. Publishers and universities are forced to withdraw books and papers that offend the Chinese government. Hollywood movies steer clear of anything that might cause trouble in China. European Union

officials have censored reports that are critical of China.

China's vast wealth means that it can also afford to bully governments into buying Chinese technology, despite security concerns. This is hardly unique, of course. All big powers use their clout to compel others to fall into line. The US did so during the Cold War, and has sometimes done so since, to the detriment of the democratic freedoms of others. But at least the US has not been, on the whole, ideologically hostile to those freedoms, in the way that Chinese leaders are.

The question is what to do about it. How to defend what is left of the free world against the predatory strategies of a very rich and powerful dictatorship? Pompeo is right to stress the importance of solidarity. The way to organize the protection of common interests is to establish international organizations to safeguard and enforce common rules and laws. That is what the United Nations has been for, and the World Trade Organization, the World Health Organization, and also the EU.

These organizations are often deeply flawed. And the hope that asking dictatorships to join them will make those regimes less oppressive is often misplaced. China has used its WTO membership to defy the rules for its own benefit. The WHO, too, has been too willing to accede to China's demands. And the UN Human Rights Council, for example, has damaged its own mission by having some very unsavory regimes as members.

But that is no reason to abandon or ignore these institutions. Trump's "America First" policy and his instinctive affinity with dictators, including Xi, is destroying the very solidarity that Pompeo says the free world needs.

This is far worse than hypocrisy. It is a direct threat to democracies East and West. Trump's blustering unilateralism, contempt for democratically elected leaders, and withdrawal of the US from international institutions are at least as harmful to freedom as Chinese bullying.

But protecting free speech and other democratic rights from Chinese efforts to weaken them should not mean disengaging from China, either, let alone insulting its citizens. A bloody century of foreign invasions does not excuse bellicose Chinese nationalism, but it helps to explain China's touchiness. Jeering references to the "Kung flu" and wild accusations that all overseas Chinese students are government spies offends even the many Chinese who still draw hope from societies freer than their own. Inflaming Chinese national sentiment is the worst possible way to temper the behavior of China's leaders.

If it is hard to feel sympathy for Trump and Pompeo, it is perhaps even harder to warm to the opinions of the editor of the Global Times, one of the Chinese government's most strident propaganda organs. Following Pompeo's speech last month, the editor, Hu Xijin, tweeted: "I strongly urge American people to re-elect Trump because his team has many crazy members like Pompeo. They help China strengthen solidarity and cohesion in a special way."

O-PED

By Daniel Gros

The High Cost of a Strong Euro

Given their strong performance during the COVID-19 crisis, and their US counterparts' ongoing debacle, European leaders who have been pushing for a stronger global role for the euro may be about to get their wish. But it may not be long before they regret it.

BRUSSELS - Europe is experiencing a "good" crisis. Despite the damage wrought by the COVID-19 pandemic and ensuing recession, its response has minimized the damage and bolstered confidence in the economy. Yet even this positive news carries risks.

The European Union has done a much better job of curbing COVID-19 infections and fatalities than, say, the United States. Moreover, its economic-policy response has been much better than expected, with all member states taking strong action to entice firms not to lay off workers. As a result, unemployment has barely risen.

If the EU's economic recovery is as strong as currently seems likely, it should be easy for firms to restart production with the same workforce they had before the crisis. In the meantime, powerful discretionary fiscal measures are supporting demand.

Now, investors all over the world are taking a fresh look at the EU. Rather than dismissing the bloc as an economic and political basket case - a collection of slow-growth economies that can't seem to stop squabbling with one another - they are beginning to appreciate its slow but solid, generally science-based policymaking. The relatively low level of public debt in many countries also helps.

This does not mean that investors expect miracles from the EU economy. But it is doing far better than many. In the US, for one, unemployment has skyrocketed; GDP contracted by 9.5% in the second quarter of 2020 - 32.9% year on year - the economy's worst performance since 1947; and policymaking has become deeply partisan and erratic. As the proverb goes, in the land of the blind, the one-eyed man is king.

The EU's recently agreed €750 billion (\$886 billion) pandemic recovery fund - which includes the first large-scale issuance of European bonds - has bolstered its reputation further, by allaying concerns about the cohesion of the common currency. Risk spreads on the government bonds of countries like Italy, Spain, and Portugal have fallen - a development that should help them to weather the crisis.

But a key consequence of rising confidence in the EU - upward pressure on the euro's exchange rate - could offset the benefits of lower risk premia. The exchange rate tends to have a strong, immediate impact on growth in Europe. For example, the euro's relative strength at the end of 2017 contributed to a growth slowdown in the subsequent two years. Today, the currency is even stronger than in 2017: over the last few weeks, its weighted average exchange rate has increased by 5%, reaching a five-year high.

The problem lies in the fact that the eurozone is a very open economy, with exports of goods and services accounting for close to 30% of GDP. In the US, that figure stands at just 12% of GDP. Trade is also less important to the economy in Japan and China, implying that the eurozone is the most "globalized" of the world's four largest economies.

This combination of openness and export dependence means that the eurozone could be in serious trouble if the euro continues to rise. Those who push for a stronger international role for the euro should take note: while such a shift might be desirable from a geopolitical point of view, the economic implications are less cut and dried. For a highly open economy like the eurozone, they certainly include significant disadvantages.

The situation is somewhat different for the US, partly because of the dollar's global role. While a strong currency undermines export competitiveness and employment, the US economy's vulnerability to exchange-rate fluctuations is limited, because it is not as open.

As recent International Monetary Fund research shows, the overwhelming dominance of the US dollar in trade invoicing - the so-called Dominant Currency Paradigm - also makes a big difference.

Because most exporters worldwide invoice in dollars, their export prices remain relatively stable, even when their local currency's exchange rate vis-à-vis the dollar changes. As a result, neither these economies nor the US economy seems to benefit substantially from a depreciation of the local currency in the short term, or to suffer significantly from its appreciation.

Exporters from Europe are the exception: because they tend to invoice in euros, European exports become less competitive everywhere when the euro appreciates against the dollar. While a depreciation of the dollar does not help the US economy, it does hurt Europe. As for a depreciation of the euro, the main beneficiaries might be emerging economies, but only those that export industrial products. Commodity exporters just experience a decline in export earnings.

For years, EU policymakers have been pushing for a stronger global role for the euro. Given their positive response to the COVID-19 crisis, they might be about to get their wish. But it may not be long before they will realize that every rose has its thorns.

OPINION

By J. Bradford DeLong

Morgue Testing the US Economy

Owing to the lack of testing capacity, there is no way to know for sure just how bad the COVID-19 epidemic in the United States has become as a result of this summer's "Sunbelt second wave." But judging by the latest data on morbidity and unemployment-insurance claims, no one should bet on economic recovery in the third quarter.

BERKELEY - US national income and output in the first quarter of 2020 was 1.25% below what it had been in the fourth quarter of 2019, but still 9.5% above what it would be by the second quarter of this year. Now that US national income has plunged 12% below what it was at the start of the year, what should we expect for the third quarter?1

America could always turn out to be lucky; but betting on that would not be prudent. According to Austan Goolsbee and Chad Syverson of the University of Chicago Booth School of Business, it was voluntary self-protection, rather than legislated restrictions on activity, that drove most of the decline in consumer spending this spring. Moreover, they warn that, "If repealing lockdowns leads to a fast enough increase in COVID infections and deaths and a concomitant withdrawal of consumers from the marketplace," doing so "might ultimately end up harming business activity."

In fact, we have seen this summer that ending or scaling back lockdowns often does lead to a rapid increase in COVID-19 infections. A sound forecast for the US economy, then, must start by forecasting the future of the pandemic. Yet most of the charts, graphs, and tables concerning the virus and its impact are useless for forecasting purposes.

After all, confirmed COVID-19 deaths tell us only what the virus was doing a month ago, whereas anticipating the virus's trajectory requires knowledge about what it is doing now. Similarly, confirmed cases catch only those who have been tested, and one must wait days or even weeks to receive test results. To get a grip on the situation, the number of tests per confirmed case would need to be 5-10 times higher than it is.

How would the past few months have played out if effective testing infrastructure had been in place? My guess is that the true (not just the measured) number of weekly new cases increased 2.5-fold from mid-June to mid-July. Assuming that we can accurately infer true cases in mid-June by multiplying mid-July's weekly confirmed deaths by 150 (admittedly a big assumption), the cases per week rose from about 600,000 to about 1.5 million as the "Sunbelt second wave" hit.

Since then, the overall picture has been even less clear. As was the case in mid-July, one test in 12 still comes back positive, and there are 150-200 confirmed cases per million people. But we are testing no more now than we were then, and the reporting date of a typical test is now lagging substantially behind the administered data - in some cases by as long as three weeks.

If the US is lucky, the fear caused by the Sunbelt second wave will have led to more vigilance in social distancing and mask-wearing, allowing for the true number of new cases nationwide to stabilize at around 1.5 million per week. But if the country is unlucky, that number will have continued to grow to around 2.5 million per week.

Tragically, we simply will not know where we stand until we can count the bodies later this month. Only then can we determine whether COVID-19 deaths "merely" doubled (from 4,500 to 9,000 per week) between mid-June and mid-July, or continued surging well beyond that level.

America's widespread testing failure means that it is still flying blind. As such, nobody really knows what would happen if schools were reopened or indoor dining and choral music recitals resumed. The conservative commentator David Frum spent the spring in New York and is now in Toronto. "To walk around a city of 2.8 million with fewer than 5 cases a day feels like the onset of recovery," he recently tweeted.

He's right. Canada, the European Union, and Japan are highly likely to see substantial economic recoveries this fall. The same cannot be said of the US. At best, there will be a mechanical bounce-back from the second to the third quarter, mostly because unemployment-insurance claims had fallen from a peak of 24 million to 17.5 million by the start of July. But, given that claims rose by one million from July 5-11 to July 12-18, there is every reason to fear that they have continued to climb in the ensuing weeks. We will soon have numbers for the first week of August. If claims have returned to the 20 million range and remain at that level heading into the fall, much of the mechanical bounce-back will have been reduced.

For the US to have any chance of a real economic recovery this year, it would need to focus on two overarching objectives. The first is to stop the spread of the virus, so that people no longer fear going out and spending. The second task is to put those who have lost their jobs in hospitality and other indoor high-human-contact occupations back to work, either providing online services or working in investment-goods sectors that do not require close contact with people.

It is in America's power to do these things, in principle. We have the resources, and as John Maynard Keynes once put it, "Anything we can actually do, we can afford."

JUDICIAL BRANCH
SUPREME COURT OF LIBERIA



OFFICE OF THE COURT ADMINISTRATOR
TEMPLE OF JUSTICE
MONROVIA, LIBERIA

Invitation for Bids for **Cleaning Materials & Services**

DATE: August 10, 2020
IFB NO. JUD/NCB/SBAJ/002/2020/2021

- The Judiciary Branch of Government anticipates funding from the Government of Liberia through its 2020/2021 fiscal budget for the procurement of services appertaining to **Cleaning Materials & Services**. Therefore, the Judiciary wishes to solicit sealed bids from reputable dealers in the provision of Cleaning Materials & Services. This invitation for bids follows the special procurement notice for this service which appeared in two dailies.
- The Judiciary now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the provision of the services described below. The item will be contained in one. Bid submission begins on **August 10, 2020 from 10:00 AM to 4:00PM daily**. The final date of submission is **August September 10, 2020 @ 1:00 pm**.

Package: **Cleaning Materials & Services.**

LOTS #:	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	BID SECURITY
Lot-1a	Cleaning Materials & Services.	Assorted	US \$266.00

- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedures as specified in the REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA Amended and Restated Public Procurement and Concession Act (PPCC ACT) published and approved: September 16, 2010. Bidding is opened to all eligible and qualified bidders' source as defined in the guidelines.
- A complete set of bidding documents for the specified Cleaning Materials & Services may be obtained by qualified and eligible bidders from the Procurement Unit at the Temple of Justice, fifth floor Room # 505 respectively.
 - Through Inquiry from the Director of Procurement;
 - Upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **US\$ 50.00** for a set of bid documents for the aforementioned lot consisting of Cleaning Materials & Services.

Bidders are required to submit the bid security in the form of Bank Guarantee along with the Bid Documents.

- Qualification requirements include the following:
 - Current Business Registration Certificate (Liberia Business Registry);
 - Current Tax Clearance Certificate (Ministry of Finance);
 - Certificate of Incorporation (Ministry of Foreign Affairs);
 - Financial Records of Performance for the past two (2) years with indication of at least two previous or current clients, with their Addresses and Telephone Numbers;
 - Availability of products at all times; and,
 - Demonstrated ability to pre-finance. Additional details are provided in the bidding documents.
 - Restricted to Liberian Businesses Only.**
 - PPCC Vendor registry
 - Business Activity Code
- Interested and eligible bidders may obtain additional information on the bidding process from the Procurement Unit at the Temple of Justice Main Building, fifth floor Room # 501 or 505 Monrovia, Liberia; and from Monday – Friday during the hours of 9:00 A.M. thru 3:00 P. M. daily.
- All Submissions must be signed and sealed in an envelope with one original and two duplicates to be sealed in one envelope including other requested information.
 - IFB NO. JUD/NCB/SBAJ/002/2020/2021- **CONFIDENTIAL BID** for the provision of Cleaning Materials & Services; to the Judiciary for Fiscal Year 2020 – 2021; and shall be addressed to:

DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT
TEMPLE OF JUSTICE MAIN BUILDING
FIFTH FLOOR RM. # 501
MONROVIA, LIBERIA

- All Submissions must be delivered to the Procurement Unit on or before **September 10, 2020 @ 1:00 PM**. However, No Electronic bids will be accepted and late bids will be rejected.
- A pre-bid opening meeting will be held on **September 1, 2020 @ 1:00 P. M.** in the office of the Director of Procurement in Room #501, to answer questions relevant to the bidding process, seven (7) days after which, all further clarification requests would remain unanswered to.
- Sealed bids for Cleaning Materials & Services will be opened in the presence of all bidders or their representatives on **September 10, 2020 @ 1:00pm**. All potential bidders are asked to please take note of the time herein stated. Bids shall be valid for a period of thirty (30) days from the deadline of submission.
- Note: The Judiciary reserves the right to reject or accept any bid without incurring any liability or assigning any reason thereof.**

Signed: Director of Procurement

Approved: Court Administrator

JUDICIAL BRANCH
SUPREME COURT OF LIBERIA



OFFICE OF THE COURT ADMINISTRATOR
TEMPLE OF JUSTICE
MONROVIA, LIBERIA

Invitation for Bids for **Air Ticket**

DATE: August 10, 2020
IFB NO. JUD/SBA/NCB/003/2020/2021

- The Judiciary Branch of Government anticipates funding from the Government of Liberia through its 2020/2021 fiscal budget for the procurement of services appertaining to **Air Ticket**. Therefore, the Judiciary wishes to solicit sealed bids from reputable agencies dealing in the provision of services relating to Air Ticket. This invitation for bids follows the special procurement notice for this service. As stated in this document.
- The Judiciary now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified Liberian bidders for the provision of the services described below. The item will be contained in one (1) package. Bid submission begins on **August 10 2020 from 10:00AM to 3:00PM daily**. The final date of submission is **September 10, 2020, @ 12:00 pm**.

Package: **Air Ticket.**

LOTS #:	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	BID SECURITY
Lot-1a	Air Ticket	Assorted	US \$660.00

- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedures as specified in the REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA Amended and Restated Public Procurement and Concession Act (PPCC ACT) published and approved: September 16, 2010. Bidding is opened to all eligible and qualified bidders' source as defined in the guidelines.
- A complete set of bidding documents for the specified Air Ticket may be obtained by qualified and eligible bidders from the Procurement Unit at the Temple of Justice, fifth floor Room # 505 respectively.
 - Through Inquiry from the Director of Procurement;
 - Upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **US\$ 50.00** for a set of bid documents for the aforementioned lot consisting of Air Ticket.

Bidders are required to submit the bid security in the form of **Bank Guarantee** along with the Bid Documents.

- Qualification requirements include the following:
 - Current Business Registration Certificate (Liberia Business Registry);
 - Current Tax Clearance Certificate (Ministry of Finance);
 - Certificate of Incorporation (Ministry of Foreign Affairs);
 - Financial Records of Performance for the past two (2) years with indication of at least two previous or current clients, with their Addresses and Telephone Numbers;
 - Availability of Space and Accommodation at all time.
 - Demonstrated ability to pre-finance. Additional details are provided in the bidding documents.
 - Restricted to Liberian Businesses Only.**
 - PPCC Vendor registry certificate.
 - Business Activity Code
 - Due diligent exercise will be done after the opening of bid documents.
- Interested and eligible bidders may obtain additional information on the bidding process from the Procurement Unit at the Temple of Justice Main Building, fifth floor Room # 501 & 505 Monrovia, Liberia; and from Monday – Friday during the hours of 9:00 A.M. thru 3:00 P. M.
- All Submissions must be signed and sealed in an envelope with one original and two duplicate copies all in one envelope and sealed.
 - IFB NO. JUD/SBA/NCB/003/2020/2021 - **CONFIDENTIAL BID** for the provision of Air Ticket; to the Judiciary for Fiscal Year 2020 – 2021; and shall be addressed to:

DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT
TEMPLE OF JUSTICE MAIN BUILDING
FIFTH FLOOR RM. # 501
MONROVIA, LIBERIA

- All Submissions must be delivered to the Procurement Unit on or before **September 10, 2020 @ 12:00 P. M.** However, **NO ELECTRONIC** bids will be accepted and late bids will be rejected.
- A pre-bid opening meeting will be held on **September 1, 2020 @ 12:00 P. M.** in the office of the Director of Procurement in Room #501, to answer questions relevant to the bidding process, Seven (7) days after which, all further clarification requests would remain unanswered.
- Sealed bids for **Air Ticket** will be opened in the presence of all bidders or their representatives on **September 10, 2020 @ 12:00 P. M.** All potential bidders are asked to please take note of the time herein stated. Bids shall be valid for a period of thirty (30) days from the deadline of submission.
- Note: The Judiciary reserves the right to reject or accept any bid without incurring any liability or assigning any reason thereof.**

Signed: Director of Procurement

Approved: Court Administrator

Weah pays tribute to Pelham-Youngblood

By **Winston W. Parley**

In an emotional tribute over the remains of his partisan the late Representative **Munah E. Pelham - Youngblood**, President **George Manneh Weah** describes the fallen ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) lawmaker as a strong and courageous fighter who had fought with all her strength.

“We have lost one of our best players! On occasions such as this one, when we gather on a national stage, I was always introduced by you, **Munah**. So, it is a sad day for me today, to come and speak and not be introduced by you,” Mr. Weah said Saturday, **8 August** in Monrovia.

He also describes **Pelham-Youngblood** as an outspoken and frank person, courageous, determined, and fearless, adding that she never backed down from anyone who would try to take advantage of her.

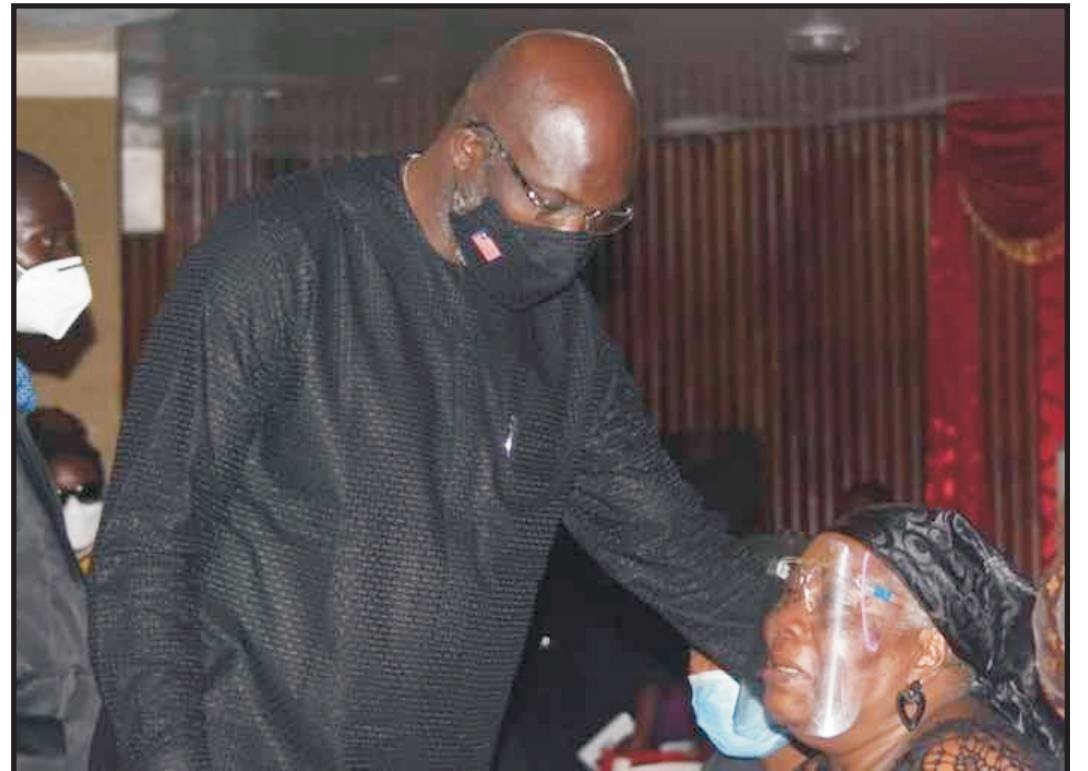
The late **Montserrado County**

right now. I may weep, but then I may not. Please forgive me if I do,” he says.

“Now that she has gone to the great beyond, we are assured that she is in the bosom of the God that she loved and served,” Mr. Weah says, referring to the late Representative **Pelham - Youngblood** as his daughter and his **Sheroe**.

He notes that God endowed **Munah** with unusual qualities, skills and virtues that enabled her in her brief sojourn on earth to have an indelible impact on the lives of all those who crossed her path, including the rich and the poor, and the healthy and the sick.

Over and above her beauty, President **Weah** says, **Munah** was an astute and articulate political trailblazer, and displayed an amazing talent as a generational leader at a very early age, becoming the youngest female from **CDC** to be elected to the



District 9 Representative died early July in neighboring **Ghana's** capital, **Accra**, following years of illness that disrupted her second term as a district lawmaker.

Following the 2011 general elections, she became the youngest Liberian female lawmaker elected to the Legislature, aged 27, and she was awarded a second term at the ballot box by her district following the 2017 pools which brought her party **CDC** to state power.

But the young female lawmaker tragically did not enjoy the entire second term given her by her people, as she had to abandon duty to always seek medical attention, mostly in other countries until her demise.

Speaker over her mortal remains, Mr. Weah says his conduct at the occasion may not be what is expected of him because he is overwhelmed with sadness at the irreplaceable loss.

“My emotions are in control of me

Liberian Legislature when she was only 27 years old.

In the 10 years that she served her constituents of **Montserrado County District 9** and the people of Liberia in that august body, he adds, **Munah** left a lasting legacy of leadership.

Recounting the days she lived with him as a daughter, Mr. Weah says she received the same level of discipline that he gave to all his children, without exception.

“She was always willing to take up any new challenge that I would place before her, whether it was to enter politics or to learn to play basketball,” he recalls.

“**Munah** was also very bold. She could even intimidate people sometimes, because she was so outspoken. If you were lazy, you would get strong. She did not bow down for anyone, nor back down from anything,” he continues.

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54th Legislature remembers fallen colleague

By Bridgett Milton

Members of the 54th National Legislature Friday, August 7 paid last respect to fallen Montserrado County District# 9 Representative Munah Pelham Youngblood. She was pronounced dead

House Speaker Bhofal Chambers in the Rotunda of the Capitol paid last respect to the deceased on behalf of the House of Representatives.

Speaker Chambers described the former chair on executive as someone who was always very optimistic, altruistic

many lives the Honorable has transformed and remembering all of the human-sensitive causes she has championed and contributed towards, we now know that she did fight a good fight and has achieved just what

God has appointed unto her", said the Speaker.

He reemphasized that the fallen Montserrado County Lawmaker's commitment to all humanity, brilliance, persistent optimism, and gentle heart will eternally remain indelible.

Senate President Pro-Tempore Albert Chea remembered the late Representative Youngblood as an astute and patriotic stateswoman that will be forever

missed for her role on National issues.

For his part, the Co-chair on Executive in the House of Representatives

Moses Acarous M. Gray lamented that he could still hear Munah's the fighting voice, consistency and loyalty from 2005 in the national political dispensation, crying for change, lamenting that the late lawmaker was a sister he could trust. **-Editing by Jonathan Browne**



on July 8, 2020 in Accra, Ghana after along period of illness.

Prior to her demise, the former district# 9lawmaker served aschairperson on Executive in the 53rd Legislature.

andcommitted social reformer, focused on women's rights, youthdevelopment, hygiene and sanitation programs, amongst others.

"As we stand before you today, with many tributes made, recounting the

CDC partisans see

Starts from back page

Munah's death has created setback to the ruling party and the Legislature.

"Her death is irreplaceable, and we CDCians are very much saddened to lose a great hero," a partisan says.

Amos Wleh, a resident of Montserrado County Electrical District 9 explains to this paper that the late Representative Youngblood was a floor fighter,

hope for every woman across this country.

According to Victoria she got attracted to Munah due to her leadership ability exercised while serving her district, party and the country.

"Munah was one of the strong women [we] have in the Legislature. Her death will weaken the fighting spirit of other female legislators who



not only for the CDC but for women in the society.

He wonders how many of the female legislators will continue her legacy by fighting for women and children's rights since Munah has died.

Also speaking, Ms. Victoria Johnson, a resident of Montserrado Electrical District 8 describes the late Representative as a beacon of

will want to emulate her leadership style," Victoria expresses fear.

"Now that she [is] no more, it is our hope that the CDC will replace her with another competent female that will continue the agenda, and her good legacy," says Ms. Johnson. **-Edited by Winston W. Parley**

Payroll disparity at Liberian Senate

By Ethel A Tweh

Reports from the Liberian Senate adhoc committee investigating senate staffers' unpaid salaries, totalling about US\$557,000 say payroll for staffers appears to be a scam.

The committee is headed by Grand Gedeh County Senator, G. Alphonso Gaye.

The report, which was presented to plenary on Thursday, August 6, noted that the total workforce of 802 employees of the Senate appears to be too huge in relation to the responsibility of each department and work environment.

The committee however recommends that the Senate conducts an independent audit to determine the legitimacy of the payroll.

Giving full details of the report, Senator Gaye said the office of the Senate Secretariat has 33 employees, while Human Resource Department has 22 persons, protocol, 47, travel service 9, Finance Department, 22



Pro-Temp Albert Chie

persons and Internal Audit, 16 persons, respectively. Others are, budget department, 16 persons, procurement, 19, press department, 23 persons, legal office, 11 staff, while another legal session has 15 persons.

Sen. Gaye noted that there are Directors and Deputy Directors in Central Administration who earn more

salaries than other Directors and Deputies, adding that some directors earn more than the chief of office staffers of senators.

The Grand Gedeh County Senator explained that some directors in Administration earn US\$850, some US\$ 2,000, while some deputies earn US\$1,700 and others, US\$1,100, respectively.

Senator Gaye continued that some office managers earn more salary than chief of office staff, disclosing that office managers earn US\$995, while chief of office staff get US\$ 975.

He added that the committee discovered that some departments that have never had a motorcycle assigned to them have from one to four drivers assigned to them and those names are on the payroll.

Meanwhile, Senator Gaye has recommended that the Senate mobilizes additional resources, about US\$600,000 to be added to the staffers' salaries and that said amount should be paid to staffers

retroactively.

"Even if the said amount doesn't increase their salaries, let it restore their salaries that they had before the harmonization", he instructed.

The plenary of the Liberian Senate overwhelmingly voted on July 22, to probe Bomi County Senator Morris Saytumah, for his role in the handling of US\$557,000 or a little over half million United States Dollars allocated for senate staffers.

Staffers have been protesting here in demand of Liberian dollar component of their monthly salaries that have not been paid since July, 2019. **-Editing by Jonathan Browne**

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Yekeh wants Grand Gedeh senatorial seat

By Winston W. Parley

Despite facing a ruthless attack by ruling party Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) supporters in Grand Gedeh County recently, opposition lawmaker Yekeh Kolubah of Montserrado County wants to contest in the December 2020 senatorial election in Grand Gedeh County on the Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) ticket.

A communication circulating on social media bears Yekeh Y. Kolubah as the author, and notifies the CPP of the Montserrado District 10 Representative's intent to

Grand Gedeh County.

His declaration of intent to contest the senatorial election in Grand Gedeh County follows recent attack against him and Alternative National Congress (ANC) political leader Mr. Cummings who also chairs the CPP while they were on a tour in the southeast.

This paper has made efforts to contact Mr. Kolubah surrounding the communication, but to no avail.

Earlier last week, Mr. Kolubah said he had been charged with the responsibility to carry out the CPP's primaries due next week in the same county - Grand Gedeh.

"I have been charged with

Weah.

Thugs invaded Mr. Cummings and Mr. Kolubah's lodging place in Zwedru city, Grand Gedeh County, stoning the B-2 Guest House that hosted the opposition officials and their vehicles, demanding that they leave the county.

Joint State Security forces failed to make any arrest for the violence that occurred in the county, and it took the intervention of the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) to disperse the disgruntled folks

Kolubah is a staunch critic of President George Manneh Weah and the CDC regime, and has vowed to extend his responses to the presidency in retaliation for being attacked by government officials and supporters of Mr. Weah.

Announcing his planned return to Grand Gedeh while the violent attack against him and Mr. Cummings still remained the top discussion here, Rep. Kolubah said the CPP initially did not have a candidate in the county, but he is returning there because the Collaboration had received three names from its county leadership.

Mr. Kolubah claims that those who carried out the attack are zogoos, a Liberian way of referring to wayward folks, adding that he has no problem with the people of Grand Gedeh because they are peaceful people.

"The Grand Gedehans are peaceful set of people. I got six children from Grand Gedeh. Six, not one. No, no, it was not the Grand Gedehans that chased me out. It was those criminals they took from the prison compound you know, that they brought," Mr. Kolubah alleges.

He accuses Grand Gedeh County Superintendent Kai Farley and Representative Zoe Pennoh of allegedly bringing the criminals out to carry on the rude attitude.



Rep. Yekeh Kolubah

contest in Grand Gedeh as senatorial candidate.

"Therefore Hon. Chairman, I hereby officially [declare] my [intent] to the Collaborating Political Parties to contest as Senator in the pending December 8, 2020 Elections in Grand Gedeh County," the communication dated 7 August quotes Kolubah as saying.

In the letter addressed to CPP chair Mr. Alexander Cummings, Rep. Kolubah says his declaration to contest in the senatorial race is based on a petition he received from citizens of Konobo Statutory District and other districts in

the responsibility to carry on the primary. We got three candidates in Grand Gedeh that want to run on the CPP ticket so I will be picking up next week for Grand Gedeh to carry on the primary," Mr. Kolubah told a live talk show on Sky FM Monday, 3 August.

Mr. Kolubah and CPP chairman Mr. Alexander Cummings were attacked last week by CDC supporters in their hundreds in the county, demanding the opposition officials to leave the county immediately as a way of venting their anger at the lawmaker for insulting and criticizing President George Manneh

GASU opened free tutorial classes for 12th graders

By Ben P. Wesee

The Gardnerville Students Union (GASU) over the weekend launched its free tutorial classes for senior high school students, mainly targeting 12th graders that will be sitting national exam this year.

During the launching ceremony at Shoes Factory Junction over the weekend, the group's president AnsuKromah indicated that they recognize the tireless efforts of school administrators, pepper and bitter ball sellers and young students within the township

Kromah further explains that GASU wishes to take advantage of the free time allocated in the exam schedule for students so as to prepare their colleagues.

"The Gardnerville Students Union has thought it wise to offer classes during these free time given us by WAEC. Furthermore, GASU takes into consideration the omission of division Art and Science, therefore, she will be offering the tutorial for the entire nine subjects," Kromah states.

Speaking on behalf of the students that attended the program, the president of the



that are opting to make a successful pass this year.

The GASU president boasts that statistical records have proven times without numbers that the township of Gardnerville has already secured its place among the best in the academic area in the past years.

AnsuKromah notes that in order for the students of Gardnerville to maintain the glittering color of the township, GASU has risen to the occasion to champion the cause of academic excellence.

New Jerusalem A. G. M School extends thanks and appreciation to GASU for the timely intervention in making sure that Gardnerville Township students became the best in the upcoming national exam.

The students president further promises that he and his colleagues will pay full attention and work hard during the time of the national exam in order to meet GASU's expectation.—*Edited by Winston W. Parley*

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Weah can't dismiss

on Cllr. Nwabudike's passport and some documents, and that possibility exists for such error but the matter should be interpreted by the court.

Commenting on the expulsion of Nwabudike by the Liberian National Bar Association for reported 'fraudulent act', he described the decision of the

Bar as a private case, which outcome is not legal ground for President Weah to act.

"Look, we have cases with Mr. Isaac Jackson and National Lotteries Authority executive director on the same tenure position, so the President will not dismiss the LACC boss until it is proven in court. We cannot continue [doing the] same thing

and the court too keeps telling us it is wrong. The President can dismiss anyone who works at the will and pleasure of the President but tenure positions are protected by law and the President will not be violator of the law," he defended.

But critics wonder when did President Weah realize that tenure positions are not

be tempered when he appointed a partisan, Gabriel Nyekan to the Liberia Extractive Industries Transparency International (LEITI) as executive director, who took armed Police and forcibly removed his predecessor from office despite the post being a tenure service.

Following few months of legal battle, the Liberia National Bar Association (LNBA) on June 22, expelled Cllr. Ndubuisi Nwabudike and deleting his name from its record after months of

contention about his Liberian citizenship, with fake documents filed on his date of birth.

On July 29, the Executive Mansion through Presidential Press Secretary Isaac Solo Kelgbeh disclosed that it is reserving decision over the citizenship of the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission boss until a final ruling by the Supreme Court.

The Nigerian-born claims he is a naturalized Liberian, but documents presented before the Liberian Senate have been described as fraudulent.

Français

McGill demande à Blama d'assumer ses responsabilités

Le ministre d'État aux affaires présidentielles du Libéria, M. Nathaniel McGill, a demandé à l'ancien directeur exécutif de l'Agence de protection de l'environnement récemment démis de ses fonctions, M. Nathaniel Blama, d'assumer pleinement ses responsabilités après avoir signé un accord de 20 millions

de dollars américains au nom de l'État du Libéria à l'insu des autorités étatiques.

Le ministre McGill a exhorté M. Blama d'assumer l'entière responsabilité de son action et de cesser d'accuser les autres.

S'exprimant jeudi 6 août à sa résidence le long de la route Roberts International Highway, le ministre McGill a reconnu avoir eu connaissance de

l'affaire car il en avait discuté avec M. Blama, mais il n'avait pas été question de lier par un accord l'État du Libéria et une entreprise dont il n'a aucune idée.

Selon le ministre d'État, aucun chef d'agence gouvernementale n'a le droit d'engager le gouvernement dans un accord financier ou tout autre accord qui engage l'État.

«Le président a pris une décision sur la base de ce qui est juste et en vérité je ne nierais pas avoir eu connaissance préalablement de l'affaire car, comme l'a dit M. Blama, j'ai été informé, il m'en a parlé, mais cela ne lui donne pas le droit de signer un accord au nom de l'État à l'insu des ministères des Finances et de la Justice. Ils sont statutairement chargés de ces fonctions, en particulier tout ce qui concerne les questions juridiques et financières. Je soutiens tout ce qui est légal et que le gouvernement peut utiliser pour recueillir des



Mr. Nathaniel McGill

Mr. Nathaniel Blama

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Un prêtre prévient Ouattara : "Demain, les mêmes diront qu'ils ont été trahis par Satan"

Docteur en théologie, le Père Marius Hervé Djadji s'est prononcé sur le discours à la nation du président Alassane Ouattara, dans lequel le chef de l'État sortant s'est déclaré candidat à l'élection présidentielle d'octobre prochain. Dans la lettre ouverte ci-dessous, le Père Marius Hervé Djadji exhorte le Président Ouattara à reconsidérer sa décision du 06 août et à se retirer tranquillement de la course à la présidence de la République.

Le Père Marius Hervé Djadji pose 5 conditions à Ouattara pour sortir la tête haute.

M. le président, je prends la parole en tant que citoyen ivoirien, prêtre, donc celui qui est appelé à annoncer, à dénoncer et à proposer au nom de l'amour de Dieu pour un vivre ensemble dont vous avez fait votre devise de gouvernance. Donc je ne peux pas me taire quand le cultivateur se pose des questions sur l'avenir de ses enfants, quand la vendeuse de manioc a peur, quand les enfants s'interrogent sur leur sort, quand les plus fragiles

risquent d'avoir un AVC.

Se taire est souvent bénéfique quand le langage du silence est parlant, interpellant et bousculant. Mais si se taire devient un mutisme coupable, une méditation de collabo, une façon de trahir ceux qui ne peuvent pas parler, ceux qui murmurent, en ce moment ceux qui ont un nom doivent publiquement parler selon Mgr Helder Camara Ed Camara.

Voilà pourquoi je parle au nom de ceux qui murmurent où qui peuvent perdre un poste ou un membre parce qu'ils ont osé parler alors que parler est le premier geste du bébé quand il rencontre le monde des vivants. Je précise que je parle en tant que Père Marius Hervé Djadji et non au nom de l'Eglise catholique de Côte d'Ivoire qui a pour chef le président de la Conférence Episcopale.

Notre rencontre à Taabo Dans les années 1995, j'ai été de ceux qui, agacé par la mauvaise interprétation du mot ivoirité, avaient un penchant pour vous parce que vous étiez pour moi victime d'une machination politique. J'assume cela parce que le chrétien ne peut pas accepter les questions d'identité exclusionnistes.

En 2002, lors d'une tournée à Taabo, en tant que stagiaire, j'ai été celui qui vous a reçu au nom de la paroisse avant que le curé et le vicaire ne rejoignent la délégation dans la salle des réunions de la paroisse. On était dans le bureau du curé avec l'actuel ambassadeur de Côte d'Ivoire en France.

J'ai rencontré un homme calme qui exprimait son amour pour la Côte d'Ivoire. Depuis ce jour l'on me traitait d'Alassaniste puisque c'est comme cela la Côte d'Ivoire. L'accession au pouvoir Le 19 septembre 2002, la Côte d'Ivoire va connaître une déchirure profonde avec l'avènement des rebelles. Selon ces derniers ils revendiquaient pour que vous soyez président de la République.

J'ai été l'un de ceux qui ont dit non à cette rébellion, dans la prière et à travers des réflexions parce que nous autres, avons pour seuls outils de combat, la prière et l'écrit. Notre éducation familiale et religieuse ainsi que notre culture ne nous conseillent pas de prendre des armes pour revendiquer. C'est

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9

La loi de la CBL parle d'approbation et non de résolution commune du parlement (M. Milton Weeks)

L'ancien gouverneur exécutif de la Banque centrale du Libéria (CBL), Milton A. Weeks, a fait savoir qu'il ne sait pas si les deux chambres du parlement avaient adopté une résolution conjointe qui autorisait la Banque centrale d'imprimer 10 milliards de dollars libériens, tout en ajoutant que dans la loi de la CBL, il n'est pas question de résolution commune du parlement, et non d'approbation de celui-ci. Répondant aux questions des procureurs le mercredi 5 août au tribunal pénal « C » de Monrovia, M. Weeks a également fait savoir qu'il ne se souvenait pas si la CBL s'était rendue au palais de l'Assemblée législative une seconde fois, en dépit du fait qu'elle eût été instruite de fournir des détails appropriés au pouvoir législatif avant de procéder à l'impression des nouveaux billets de banque.

« Je ne sais pas s'il y a eu une résolution commune. La loi de la CBL stipule simplement que l'Assemblée législative doit donner son approbation. Il n'est donc pas question, là, de résolution commune », a répondu M. Weeks, à la question de l'accusation de savoir si l'Assemblée législative avait adopté une résolution conjointe qui autorisait la CBL à imprimer les 10 milliards de dollars libériens.

Dans son témoignage le lundi 3 août, le défendeur Weeks a rappelé un certain nombre de problèmes qui nécessitaient l'impression de 10 milliards de dollars libériens. Il a affirmé qu'à la fin de 2016, le gouvernement, par la voix du ministère des Finances, avait informé la CBL de ce qu'il ne serait pas en mesure de continuer à vendre des devises à la banque en raison de fortes contraintes de change.

« Cependant, l'acte d'accusation prétend que nous savions que 13 milliards et plus étaient en circulation, alors que nous n'avons imprimé que 10 milliards. Pour moi, avec tout le respect que je vous dois, l'allégation est absurde et la raison en est que le Conseil des gouverneurs n'a fait qu'examiner le total des billets mutilés, et non le total d'argent en circulation », a-t-il dit. M. Weeks, qui a vanté ses mérites pour avoir travaillé dans le secteur bancaire pendant 26 ans à des postes de haute responsabilité au Libéria, en Zambie, au Malawi, en Afrique du Sud et au

Nigéria, a indiqué que lorsqu'il est arrivé aux affaires en tant que gouverneur exécutif de la CBL en 2016, le premier contrat pour imprimer 5 milliards de dollars libériens avait déjà été signé par la direction de la CBL sous l'égide de M. Charles E. Sirleaf, fils de l'ancienne présidente Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf.

Weeks et d'autres membres du conseil d'administration de la CBL, dont David Fahart, Elsie Dossen Bardio et Kollie Tamba, sont jugés pour vol de propriété, sabotage économique, fraude sur les revenus internes du Libéria, utilisation abusive des fonds publics, des biens ou des archives, vol ou décaissement illégal d'argent public, complot criminel et facilitation criminelle.

Ils ont été inculpés pour avoir prétendument imprimé 13 004 750 000 dollars libériens sans autorisation entre 2016 et 2018 et n'auraient déclaré que 10 359 750 000,00 L\$, soit un écart de 2 645 000 000 L\$.

Selon le défendeur Weeks, toutes les devises utilisées par la CBL provenaient des devises qui lui sont vendues par le gouvernement, mais ce dernier avait déclaré qu'il n'était plus en mesure de continuer à lui vendre le dollar américain en raison de fortes contraintes de change.

La CBL, a en croire l'accusé, aurait introduit « 25% de remise sur les transferts entrants », une catégorie d'argent qui, selon lui, est transférée au Libéria et qui est liée à des particuliers via le système bancaire mais utilise des sociétés internationales de transfert d'argent telles que Western Union, MoneyGram et Nobel, entre autres.

Selon lui, le total des envois de fonds entrants s'élevait en moyenne à environ 240 millions de dollars US par an, et les 25% correspondaient à environ 60 millions USD, soit 5 millions de dollars américains par mois. Cet argent est versé aux personnes qui reçoivent des transferts d'argent par le biais des banques commerciales.

« Les banques commerciales étaient contraintes de pouvoir payer [leurs] clients en raison du fait qu'environ 20% seulement de la monnaie totale en circulation se trouvait dans le système bancaire. La plupart de l'argent en circulation n'est jamais arrivé au niveau des banques.

Français

McGill demande

fonds, mais le fait est que je n'en ai aucune connaissance en ce qui concerne la signature, le ministère des Finances non plus. J'ai parlé avec le ministre des Finances lorsque le document relatif à l'accord est arrivé. Oui en effet, il y a eu des réflexions sur le secteur, des réflexions pour savoir comment le Libéria peut vendre de l'hydrate de carbone, mais dire que nous avons discuté et conclu, c'est loin de la réalité », a-t-il déclaré.

Le CO2BIT fait partie d'un groupe international de technologues et de philanthropes dispersés dans le monde, qui militent en faveur du CO2Bit, un dispositif numérique qui a été créé pour servir d'un mécanisme pour financer et promouvoir la production d'énergie durable et neutre en carbone dans le monde.

Le ministre McGill a fait savoir qu'il y a eu plusieurs discussions sur la question, mais le gouvernement n'a pas encore trouvé une entreprise appropriée pour un tel accord.

Il a dit avoir dit au président George Manneh Weah qu'il s'est entretenu avec le ministre des Finances pour savoir s'il était au courant de l'accord et que ni le ministre Samuel Tweah, encore moins le ministre de la Justice Frank Musa Dean, n'est au courant.

« Si j'étais au courant, je le dirais au président. Cela n'est du tout difficile pour moi, mais M. Blama a gardé les choses secrètes jusqu'à ce qu'une source étrangère apporte l'accord complet à la présidence, ce qui est injuste et la décision du président vise à dissuader toutes autres velléités de la part de ses fonctionnaires.

Selon le ministre McGill, le secteur implique également l'Autorité Forestière, mais elle n'a pas été associée aux discussions non plus, ce qui

Un prêtre prévient Ouattara

ainsi que nous avons tous assisté à la pièce théâtrale de votre accession au pouvoir.

Je n'ai jamais accepté et je n'accepterai jamais le bombardement d'Abidjan par la France, le traumatisme que cela a causé à des enfants pendant que des petits français eux dormaient tranquillement à Paris. J'ai toujours dit même à certains de vos proches de vous demander de patienter. Si vous prenez ce pouvoir dans la patience, sans attaquer Abidjan, si vous savez

est difficile de comprendre et compliqué l'ensemble de l'accord.

« Il est regrettable qu'il se retrouve dans cette situation. Mais avant qu'un contrat, un accord ou une concession soit signé, il faut que le Ministère de la Justice y soit associé. Lorsque l'affaire a été portée à notre attention, le ministère de la Justice a été contacté et le ministère nous a dit que les procédures judiciaires n'avaient pas été suivies », a-t-il dit.

Le 5 août, le président Weah a limogé Blama, directeur exécutif de l'Agence de protection de l'environnement (EPA). M. Blama avait pourtant été récemment réintégré dans ses fonctions par le Président après avoir été suspendu en mars.

M. Blama aurait signé unilatéralement, le 7 mars 2020, un contrat de 20 millions de dollars américains à l'insu des ministres de la Justice et des Finances, en violation de la loi et des procédures gouvernementales établies. L'enquête menée par le Ministère de la justice a établi que M. Blama n'avait pas respecté les exigences légales, les procédures standard concernant la vente des actifs du Gouvernement libérien.

Mais M. Blama a dit avoir eu des entretiens avec le ministre d'État aux Affaires présidentielles, M. Nathaniel McGill et le ministre des Finances au sujet de l'accord et ils ont tous deux exprimé leur optimisme quant au fait que cet accord serait fructueux.

« C'est une plate-forme comme le Fonds vert pour le climat, comme le Fonds d'adaptation, comme le Fonds pour l'environnement mondial - c'est le même type de plate-forme mis en place à l'échelle mondiale. Nous avons déjà eu cette discussion avec le ministre des Finances, j'ai eu une discussion avec le ministre d'État et ils sont au courant », a-t-il dit.

attendre votre tour, vous serez un bon président car je vois en vous de la personnalité et de la prestance.

Mais si vous prenez ce pouvoir par les armes, vos bons actes seront impactés éternellement par la manière dont vous êtes venus à la tête du pays. La déportation du président Gbagbo et du ministre Charles Blé Goudé J'ai été celui qui a toujours dit dès le premier jour, que vous venez de faire une erreur politique grave parce que le président Gbagbo et le ministre Charles

COMMENTAIRE

Par Ian Buruma

L'hypocrisie de Trump à l'égard de la Chine

NEW YORK - Dans un discours prononcé le mois dernier à la bibliothèque présidentielle Richard Nixon, le secrétaire d'État Mike Pompeo a respectueusement fait valoir que Nixon avait eu tort au sujet de la Chine. Pompeo considère en effet que l'ouverture vis-à-vis de la République populaire, censée voir la dictature maoïste se modérer via un réchauffement de ses relations internationales, pour ainsi devenir plus libre chez elle et plus coopérative à l'étranger, s'est finalement soldée par un échec.

En réalité, Nixon n'a jamais cherché à démocratiser la Chine - il avait besoin de l'aide de Mao pour mettre un terme à la guerre du Vietnam, et prendre l'avantage sur l'Union soviétique.

Pompeo formule néanmoins une longue critique. La Chine serait aujourd'hui moins libre que dans les années 1980, affirme-t-il. Le pays déroberait des secrets industriels occidentaux, missionnerait des agents du gouvernement déguisés en étudiants, étoufferait toute opposition via des menaces, incarcérerait minorités ethniques et dissidents dans des camps de concentration, ferait du chantage à plusieurs pays pour qu'ils achètent des technologies chinoises permettant à Pékin d'espionner les États-Unis, et la liste se poursuit. « Le monde libre doit triompher sur la nouvelle tyrannie », poursuit-il. « Nous autres nations attachées à la liberté devons conduire la Chine à changer... ».

Pompeo a-t-il raison ? L'administration du président Donald Trump se situe-t-elle effectivement du bon côté de l'histoire sur cette question ? La Chine représente-t-elle une menace existentielle pour le « monde libre » ?

Si tel est le cas, alors l'administration Trump fait preuve d'une hypocrisie spectaculaire. Trump lui-même a souvent parlé de Xi Jinping comme d'un très bon ami, et clairement refusé de reprocher au président chinois sa négligence des droits de l'homme, l'enfermement de prisonniers politiques, ou encore la mis à mal de l'État de droit à Hong Kong.

Mais l'hypocrisie de Trump ne signifie pas nécessairement que Pompeo a tort concernant la Chine. Dans les grandes lignes, ce qu'affirme le secrétaire d'État est vrai. Le Parti communiste chinois (PCC) applique effectivement un régime dictatorial au niveau intérieur, et se montre souvent hostile à l'égard des démocraties étrangères.

Il existe bien entendu une limite dans ce que peut faire le « monde libre » pour changer la politique domestique chinoise, aussi condamnable soit-elle. La Chine est trop puissante, les intérêts économiques en jeu trop importants, et les risques de voir une guerre froide se changer en guerre ouverte trop significatifs. Les Chinois sont les seuls à pouvoir briser le monopole du PCC sur le pouvoir dans leur pays. Ce serait une folie pour une force extérieure que de promouvoir un « changement de régime ».

De bonnes raisons justifient toutefois que l'on s'efforce de minimiser les dégâts que la Chine peut infliger à des accords nationaux au sein de pays moins oppressifs. De nombreux éléments de preuve démontrent que la pression chinoise peut mettre à mal l'un des piliers des sociétés démocratiques : la liberté de parole et d'expression.

Les institutions occidentales qui font appel au soutien financier de la Chine, ou au marché chinois, sont particulièrement vulnérables. Éditeurs et université sont parfois contraints de retirer des ouvrages ou travaux qui offensent le gouvernement chinois. Les films hollywoodiens restent à l'écart de tout ce qui pourrait semer le trouble en Chine. De même, les dirigeants de l'Union européenne ont parfois censuré des rapports critiques à l'égard de la

Chine.

Les moyens financiers colossaux de la Chine lui permettent également de contraindre des gouvernements à acquiescer des technologies chinoises, en dépit des préoccupations de sécurité. Cette situation n'est bien entendu pas exceptionnelle. Toutes les grandes puissances usent de leur poids pour en amener d'autres à rentrer dans le rang. Les États-Unis l'ont fait pendant la guerre froide, et à nouveau depuis, au détriment des libertés démocratiques d'autres pays. Pour autant, les États-Unis ne se sont jamais montrés dans l'ensemble idéologiquement hostiles aux libertés d'autrui comme le font les dirigeants chinois.

La question est de savoir quoi faire. Comment défendre ce qu'il reste du monde libre contre les stratégies prédatrices d'une dictature immensément riche et puissante ? Pompeo a raison de souligner ici l'importance de la solidarité. Organiser la protection des intérêts communs implique d'établir des organisations internationales qui préservent et appliquent des règles et lois communes. Telle est la vocation des Nations-Unis, de l'Organisation mondiale du commerce, de l'Organisation mondiale de la santé, ainsi que de l'Union européenne.

Ces organisations présentent souvent de profondes défaillances, et l'espoir selon lequel inviter des dictatures à les rejoindre pourrait rendre ces régimes moins oppressifs est souvent malavisé. La Chine a ainsi usé de son appartenance à l'OMC pour défier certaines règles dans son propre intérêt. L'OMS a pour sa part trop souvent accédé aux exigences chinoises. Le Conseil des droits de l'homme de l'ONU a quant à lui entaché sa propre mission en acceptant comme membres certaines régimes très peu recommandables.

Mais cela ne justifie pas que l'on abandonne ou ignore ces institutions. La politique trumpienne de « l'Amérique d'abord », ainsi que les affinités instinctives du président américains auprès de dictateurs parmi lesquels Xi, anéantissent précisément cette solidarité dont le monde libre a besoin selon Pompeo.

C'est encore bien pire que de l'hypocrisie. C'est une menace directe pour les démocraties du monde entier. L'unilatéralisme en rafales du président Trump, son mépris pour certains dirigeants démocratiquement élus, et le retrait américain de plusieurs institutions internationales, sont au moins aussi dommageables pour la liberté que les intimidations chinoises.

La protection de la liberté d'expression et des autres droits démocratiques face aux efforts chinois qui visent à les fragiliser ne doit pas pour autant signifier une rupture totale avec la Chine, et ne justifie pas que l'on insulte sa population. Si un siècle sanglant d'invasions étrangères n'excuse pas le nationalisme belliqueux de la Chine, il contribue toutefois à expliquer sa sensibilité. Les références moqueuses au « Kung flu », et les accusations gratuites selon lesquelles tous les étudiants chinois à l'étranger seraient des espions du gouvernement, offensent même les Chinois qui puisent encore de l'espoir dans des sociétés plus libres que la leur. Enflammer le sentiment national chinois, c'est procéder de la pire manière pour tempérer le comportement des dirigeants de la Chine.

S'il n'est pas facile d'éprouver de la sympathie pour Trump et Pompeo, il est sans doute encore plus difficile de se réjouir des opinions de la rédaction du Global Times, l'un des organes de propagande les plus véhéments du gouvernement chinois. En effet, à la suite du discours de Pompeo du mois dernier, son rédacteur en chef Hu Xijin a tweeté : « J'encourage vivement le peuple américain à réélire Trump, dont l'équipe est composée de nombreux membres complètement fous, comme Pompeo, qui contribuent d'une manière très spéciale à renforcer la solidarité et la cohésion chinoise ».

SPECIAL

ARTICLE

In whose interest are you fighting Grand Gedehans Youth?

By Jimmy Shilue

Times, political contexts and social realities are rapidly changing and obviously Liberia's geographical political landscape as well as the electorates are obliged to come to term with these dynamics as remaining oblivious to current realities will only accelerate backwardness; fuel myopic political xenophobia and 'primordial sentiments'.

The attack on opposition leaders, Alex Cummings and Yekeh Kolubah by some youth in Grand Gedeh County is not only embarrassing but a bad precedence that opens a Pandora box on the county. When something of this nature happens, there are two fundamental ways to probe the underlying reasons- one is by asking why did it happen and the next is who did this to destroy the county's hospitable image?

The formal question helps to elicit plausible underlying reasons beyond the euphoria generated while the latter facilitates a much broader probe to identify the perpetrators and their real motives. This is why I am wondering whose agenda are these youth pushing? As a native of the county, I am shocked and utterly embarrassed by such behavior, which threatens Liberia's fragile peace. It should be noted that anti-democratic behavior of this kind undermines development and threatens stability.

Historically, Grand Gedeh County came to the spotlight of Liberia's politics in the 1980s, when as one of the county, Master Sargent Samuel K. Doe, led a group of junior officers and overthrew President Tolbert's government. The pains and resentments linked to the violent removal and public execution of former government officials still linger in the hearts and minds of some Liberians.

Resentments toward Grand Gedeh County and people even intensified during and after the Liberian civil war such that the name Grand Gedeh County in the eyes of some is synonymous to violence and war.

While these perceptions are grossly misleading, it should be acknowledged that the role played by some of my kinsmen contributed to the negative image of the county. On the other hand, Grand Gedehans also suffered inhumane treatments from others because of their identity as Krahn.

In other words, Grand Gedehans paid high price for the actions by few because of the 'Politics of ethnicity', which unfortunately comes with 'collective guilts' and bad consequences in Liberia, whenever the tie turns.

Depending on who one speaks to, today different narratives abound about the atrocities committed by folks from various ethnic groups. There is no ethnic group that is without guilt as far as the Liberian crisis is concerned but the Mandingos, Krahn, Gio and Mano are often spoken about. These ethnic groups are always seen as warlike and violent folks. Ethnic and political polarization as a result of the crisis created undue hostility and animosity thereby necessitating alliances of convenience. Consequently, primordial sentiments increased among Grand Gedehans not because everybody from the county sanctioned the atrocities committed by some of their kinsmen but due to the politics of collective guilt and associated consequences.



Thus, no one wants a repeat of such painful history, hence we have to condemn the recent action by some misguided youth who seem to not learn from the civil war.

Anti-democratic action by zealous youthful protesters in Grand Gedeh County only re-enforces the perception of a warlike folks and brings the county name to spotlight for the wrong reason. I have always been proud of the level of tolerance in the county, whenever I visit. There are annotated evidence that the third largest ethnic group in the county are folks from Nimba County.

Moreover, while conducting an assignment years back for an international organization on public participation in concessions and natural resource governance, I was intrigued to notice that unlike other counties where the youth vociferously advocated for their kinsmen to be given priority, when it comes to awarding jobs, in Grand Gedeh, there was relative openness and high level of tolerance to non-locals. I even spoke to a senior judiciary official who hailed from another county and he said "this is my second county and I do not want to take assignment anywhere else but here".

Grand Gedehans are indeed tolerant, forgiving and very hospitable so one wonders where does such disgruntle behavior against Mr. Cummings and Representative Kolubah come from? The widely held narrative for the action is President George Weah is the 'play son' of the late President Samuel K. Doe and therefore anybody who openly hates President Weah will not be allowed in the county. The irony however is Grand Gedeh County has not made any significant progress since the civil crisis ended largely due to such irrational thinking.

For twelve conservative years, the county suffered unnecessary marginalization under President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf administration because folks from the county perceived the former president as an enemy to the late president Doe.

The sad reality is other counties that even perceived former president Sirleaf through such negative prism played their 'cards' wisely by not

placing all their eggs in one basket but navigated the political landscape scrupulously in the interest of their counties. Furthermore, President Weah in whose behalf the youth seemed to base their action, admitted that he has very good relationship with former President Sirleaf. Some even believe that Madam Sirleaf has major influence on President Weah, when it comes to making national decisions and appointments in government. So, one can even infer that Grand Gedeh County is not out of the woods, if the dislike for Madam Sirleaf was a secondary driving force for overwhelmingly voting for Weah's CDC. Also, considering the fact that nothing has changed in the county since the inception of the Weah's government, what is the rationale for such uncouth attitude? In whose interest are our young future leaders fighting?

In post war Liberia, previous and current presidents always appoint leaders for Grand Gedeh County who lack vision to transform the county. Social contract theory requires elected and appointed politicians to ably represent the collective interest of their folks and constituents but in the case of Grand Gedeh, national leadership imposes their cronies who are only committed to ensure that the county remains in abeyance. The action by the youth seems to be orchestrated by opportunist politicians who want to demonstrate that Grand Gedeh loves President Weah and the CDC more than any county. Granted for the sake of the argument, however politics is about interest but I do not see any trade off.

While I strongly dislike Representative Yekeh Kolubah continuous outburst and invectives against the president and the presidency of our country, the 'Country giant' knows how to handle Representative Kolubah better than Grand Gedeh youth to damage the image of the county under the disguise of showing love.

Grand Gedehans will no more be subjected to collective guilt and attendant consequences because of the action of few misguided people. This is why I applaud Samuel K. Doe jr. for condemning the youth in the county. I also appreciate the statement made by Grand Gedeh Caucus but would suggest that the Caucus recommends the dismissal of the superintendent.

Test scandal busted at NPHIL

At least three officials at the National Public Health Institute of Liberia (NPHIL) has been suspended as the entity co-heading the country's COVID-19 fight comes under another public scrutiny after issuing a fraudulent certificate, declaring a positive patient, negative. NPHIL is the government's institution responsible for testing probable corona virus cases.

The suspended officials are Amos F. Gborie, Deputy Director, Division of Environmental and Occupational Health; Mr. Fahn Taweh, Deputy Director, National Public Health and Reference Laboratory and Jonathan G. Ender, Chief of

signature of Dr. Makosa Fallah was issued to the patient that she's negative.

But Dr. Fallah who did not deny that his signature was on that certificate claims that it was rather his chief of office staff Jonathan G. Ender who affixed his electronic signature on the document without his knowledge.

"This matter came to my attention on Friday (August 7)." Dr. Fallah told the New Dawn on Sunday August 9. "I never even knew that this was happening under my nose." He added.

According to him, after the matter was brought to his attention he was informed by his Deputy Amos F. Gborie, that Ms. Wilson had come abruptly to the office seeking a COVID-19 traveler certificate, which is a

Fallah on it.

The issuance of the clearance certificate to Ms. Wilson has now sparked a major controversy that could undermine the country's credibility in its fight against the coronavirus as the lawyer representing Ms. Wilson is now claiming the release of his client.

Cllr. Neto Zarzar Lighe told the New Dawn on Sunday that he has written the IMS which is under the chairmanship of Health Minister Dr. Wilhelmina Jallah to immediately release his client and have her American passport return.

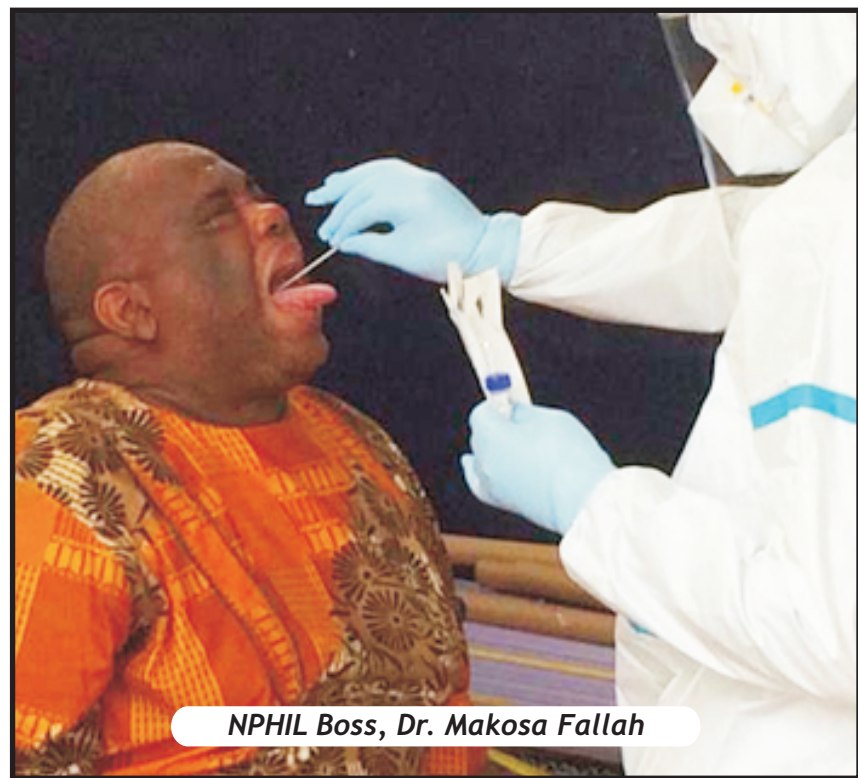
Cllr. Lighe told this paper that his client cannot be responsible for an internal error within the NPHIL.

In a communication to Mr. Gborie and two others, Dr. Fallah said, "In the midst of the COVID-19 crisis, it is very dangerous to the country for confirmed positive cases to be given results as negative. This will cause further spread of the disease making containment extremely difficult".

He stated that as per the guidelines and best practice from NPHIL, only people with known negative results that have been verified are given a certificate of travel. He added that the serious breach of this established protocol has the propensity to derail COVID-19 containment in the country.

This is not the first time that such incident has occurred. It could be recalled that a similar situation involving Dr. Alaric Tokpah occurred where Dr. Tokpah rejected claims that he was COVID-19 positive after he had previously received certificate under the signature of Dr. Fallah informing him that he was negative.

Minutes after health officials alerted Dr. Tokpah and sought his immediate quarantine an uproar ensued prompting militants from the Student Unification Party-SUP, to deployed student-militant at his Lapkazee community to prevent health authorities from quarantining Prof. Alaric Tokpah. **-By Othello B. Garblah**



NPHIL Boss, Dr. Makosa Fallah

Office Staff to Dr. Masoka Fallah, NPHIL's Director General.

The trio issued a negative COVID-19 traveler's certificate to a Liberian born American Ms. Skeeter T. Wilson, who was bundled out an airplane on Sunday August 2, 2020, by Liberian Immigration Service officials after authorities discovered that the certificate which she was bearing was forged.

According to information gathered by this paper, Ms. Wilson was tested positive and through the Incident Management System (IMS) treatment protocol was informed about her positive results and placed under treatment. In less than a week, a certificate under the

requirement for travelers leaving the country.

He explained that when the issue was brought to his attention he launched an investigation and discovered that the initial result of Ms. Wilson had come back positive but somehow it was changed to negative by Mr. Gborie.

Information gathered by this paper indicates that Mr. Gborie issued Ms. Wilson a negative certificate to through a proxy when her result sent to him by Mr. Trokon Yeabah, one of the Lab officials clearly stated that she was positive.

Gborie then sent a letter of testimonial to Dr. Fallah's chief of office staff, Jonathan Enders, who without verification placed the electronic signature of Dr.

CDC unveils Munah's will

By E. J. Nathaniel Daygbor

A will left behind by ruling Coalition for Democratic Change fallen lawmaker Munah Pelham Youngblood, has been revealed to the public.

Remains of the late Montserrado County District#9 Representative were interred here over the weekend after state funeral attended by government officials led by President George Manneh Weah and the governing CDC along with family members, friends and sympathizers.

Two stalwarts of the CDC, Montserrado County Senator Saah Joseph and Chairman Mulbah Morlu released the political will of the fallen lawmaker at her funeral held in the Samuel Kanyon Doe Sports Complex in Paynesville, outside Monrovia on Saturday, August 8th.

In separate tributes they revealed that the late Munah left a written mandate to CDCians: "Let's go to the Sycamore Tree to solve our problems."

"These are some of the

continues to reverberate across Montserrado. She was the leopard in town that would chase away the 'little foxes' that sneaked out of their holes once to pollute the vine. Inarguably, Striker-9 was a fighter that could not be silenced; even death soon realizes that a true revolutionary like Munah cannot be contained by a mere grave! Death has only succeeded in creating a physical distance between Munah and those of us that remain, other than that, Munah rises daily to interact with us, reminding us of our responsibility to the CDC," Morlu added.

According to him, he and the late Madam Youngblood had a deeper personal partisan friendship and that relationship allowed him paid attention to every word that came from her, grasping the things she cared about most.

In defiance of health regulations here, ruling Congress for Democratic Change partisans, supporters



contents of the will and we must all pay attention to ensure Munah's sacrifices for the CDC do not go in vain as we keep listening to signals beyond the grave for Munah's thoughts", Chairman Morlu said.

He noted that as the body was being laid to rest after a prolific trench-warfare, the late Munah Youngblood refused to be silenced by death, issuing perhaps the biggest of her revolutionary mandate.

He recalled that the fallen CDCian made tremendous sacrifices towards the growth and development of the ruling party and did not leave without guidance, saying that she can still be heard calling on partisans to stay the course, rise to defend the CDC, uphold its virtues, and be the "hundreds of thousands of 'cats that must chase the 'rats back to its hole."

"Munah was a fighter; died a fighter and remains a fighter even in death as her thunderous voice of command

and sympathizers in their thousands converged last Thursday 06 August at the party's headquarters in Congo Town, outskirts of Monrovia, obstructing normal traffic flow in the Sinkor belt, and received remains of the late CDC lawmaker.

They trekked from various communities across the capital in campaign style to their headquarters to pay last respect to the fallen partisan and lawmaker in flagrant disregard to social distancing, a critical health regulation in avoiding mass infection of the Coronavirus that has affected more than 1,000 persons here, including nearly 80 deaths.

Her demise has been described as a serious impact on the struggle for gender equality and women empowerment in Liberia. She was a strong advocate for social justice, outspoken and staunch member of the CDC.

Editing by Jonathan Browne



Weah can't dismiss Cllr. Nwabudike

-Min. McGill



Mr. Nathaniel McGill



Cllr. Ndubuisi Nwabudike

By E. J. Nathaniel Daygbor

Amid persistent calls by some members of the Liberian Legislature and some members of the general public for the dismissal of the Liberia Anti Corruption Commission executive director Cllr. Ndubuisi Nwabudike, the Minister of

State for Presidential Affairs has said that President George Manneh Weah has no legal grounds to dismiss the Nigerian-born LACC boss because the office is a tenure position.

Speaking to The NewDawn recently in Monrovia, Minister Nathaniel F. McGill said there are several cases in court against the President for

attempting to dismiss officials who are serving tenure position and the case involving the LACC boss is no exception. He said President Weah has not interest in continuing on this path.

Minister McGill noted that there is argument and counter-argument on the ages

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CDC partisans see Munah's death as a setback

By Lewis S. Teh

Partisans of the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) have termed as a serious setback to the CDC, particularly female legislators, the death of Montserrado Electoral District 9 Representative Munah Pelham - Youngblood.

Speaking to this paper over the weekend at the party headquarters in Oldest Congo Town, some partisans

expressed sadness and regret over the passing of female CDC legislator.

Munah died in Accra, Ghana

following a prolonged illness. CDC partisans dressed in their party's attire, explain that

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