

TIP ME

...Your wallet is safe

Withdrawals made easy and smooth

TipOut whenever you want.

Download Now

Available on  



New Dawn

French Version Inside

TRULY INDEPENDENT

Advertize Here For Low Rate

VOL.10 NO. 238

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 2021

PRICE LD\$40.00



NEC Boss addresses protesting poll workers via megaphone

Poll workers demand pay

Vote for me

- PYJ tells colleagues



Senator Prince Y. Johnson

For as low as 60 USD, you can own one of these!

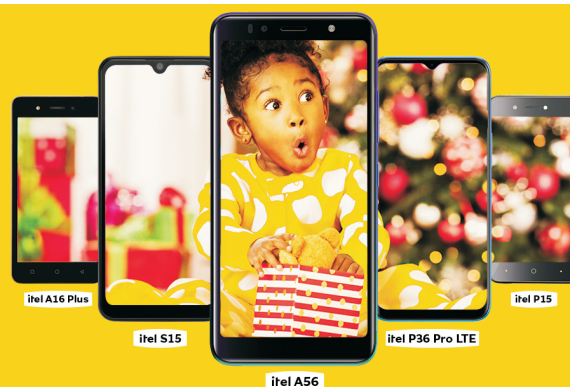
You also enjoy 1GB free data every month for 6 months!
Phone prices range between 60USD and above.

Available at: itel shop at Broad and Center Streets Intersection.

everywhere you go

Dial *187# to get 1GB free data after purchase.

Ts & Cs apply.





Continental News

Internet blocked for key Uganda election

The internet is blocked and security has been stepped up in Uganda as counting gets under way after polls closed in a hotly contested election.

A 38-year-old singer is challenging Yoweri Museveni, 76, in one of the world's youngest countries.

Robert Kyagulanyi, known by his stage name Bobi Wine, says he represents the younger generation, while Mr Museveni says he is standing for stability.

Dozens of people have been killed in the run-up to the election.

Polls closed at 16:00 local time (13:00 GMT) but remain open for those still queuing at the time. Some polling stations did not open for close to two hours and voters in the queue had grown angry and had started shouting at the polling gate officials as the cause of the delay was not clear, the BBC's Patience Atuhaire reports from the capital, Kampala. As vote counting began, lorries carrying soldiers drove through the city and police and local defence units were also seen patrolling, she says.

The police had earlier said they intended to deploy officers on rooftops of

Kampala during the election period, saying that opposition activists commanded protests from high-rise building in November, when more than 50 people were killed after Bobi Wine was arrested.

Earlier this week, dressed in military fatigues Mr Museveni gave a stark warning during a televised speech: "If you try to disturb peace, you will have yourself to blame. The security forces, following the law, are ready to deal with any troublemaker." Results are not

expected before Saturday. As well as being unable to get online, people are even having trouble sending text messages. Earlier in the week the authorities ordered the blocking of social media, messaging apps and certain sites for virtual private networks (VPNs) which people use to get around social media blocks.

The Ugandan authorities appear to have ordered internet providers to shut down the whole internet at

19:00 local time (16:00 GMT) on the eve of the election, according to a letter shared by journalist Samira Sawlani. In the letter, which we have not verified, the Uganda Communications Commission orders internet providers to "implement a temporary suspension of the operation of all your internet gateways and associated access points".

While it said the order was temporary, the letter did not state when the suspension should end.

The internet access advocacy group Access Now has urged telecoms providers to challenge the order, saying they should be "enablers of human rights, not gatekeepers".

Coronavirus guidelines on

social distancing and handwashing are proving hard to implement but here in Kibuli, which sits in the shadow of downtown Kampala, everyone queuing up is wearing facemasks. There are reports that a new biometric system to verify people's identities is not working in some areas. The electoral commission's spokesperson would not confirm whether this was because the internet has been cut off.

There are questions about how results from around the country will be transmitted to the national tally centre in Kampala without the internet. The electoral commission told the BBC it has systems in place to do this but didn't explain further. BBC



It was not always possible to maintain social distance in the voter queues

Zimbabwe arrests 10,000 for not wearing face masks

Police in Zimbabwe have arrested 10,000 people over the last week for failing to wear face masks in public and 16,000 others for flouting lockdown restrictions aimed at curbing the spread of coronavirus, the

authorities say.

Most of the offenders were ordered to pay an admission of guilt fine, the privately owned NewZimbabwe.com website reported.

A hard lockdown came into force on 5 January after cases

doubled last month because of festive season gatherings and traffic from neighbouring South Africa, which is experiencing a severe second wave of the virus.

The highest number of daily deaths from coronavirus - 38 - were recorded on Wednesday. Currently more than 9,000 people have Covid-19.

The surge in cases has threatened to overwhelm health services, and health care workers have been hit by a shortage of protective gear as they battle to cope with an increase in the number of patients, the state-owned Herald newspaper reports.

Healthcare workers have been hit by shortages of adequate personal protective equipment (PPE) as the number of patients increases.

In total, there have been more than 34,000 Covid-19 cases and almost 600 deaths since the first case was detected in March. BBC



Zimbabwe has seen a surge in Covid-19 cases since Christmas

Sudanese protesters rally, demand detention centers closed

Dozens of Sudanese rallied in the capital, Khartoum, on Thursday to demand the closure of illegal detention centers following the alleged torturing and killing of a man by a paramilitary force whose members once formed the backbone of a militia accused of war crimes in Darfur.

The death of Bahaa el-Din Nouri, snatched last month while sitting at a coffee shop last month, has reignited

the Sudanese Professionals' Association, which spearheaded the popular uprising that led to the ouster of longtime autocrat Omar al-Bashir in April 2019.

Ammar al-Baqer, a member of the association, said the protest aims to reiterate his group's demands that "all illegal detention centers" be closed and that only the Sudanese police retain the right to detain people "according to due process."



debate over the mandate of Sudan's Rapid Support Forces, which activists have long held responsible for several human rights violations.

Men and women held up Nouri's photographs, forming a human chain in downtown Khartoum from the office of Sudan's general prosecutor to the Cabinet. Many protesters also raised banners reading: "No to enforced disappearances."

The rally was called for by

Nouri was taken on Dec. 16 from the Kalakla neighborhood in southern Khartoum by men in plainclothes riding in a vehicle without license plates, his family has said. His body showed up five days later at a hospital morgue. The family refused to take it for immediate burial after seeing signs of apparent beating and torture, according to Nouri's brother, Yasser. AFP

EDITORIAL

Liberians deserve nothing, but service leadership

VICE PRESIDENT JEWEL Howard Taylor, President of the Liberian Senate, sounded a reawakening call to senators of the 54th Liberian Legislature Monday, 11 January 2020, reminding them that with the constitutional authority they have, there should be no more excuses, apologies and promises for another day in delivering services to the people.

“...**FOR TRUTH BEING** told, you are members of the First Branch of Government and you have the full authority to make their dreams come true”, VP Taylor bluntly said as members of the 54th Legislature that includes both the Senate and the House of Representatives returned to the Capitol Monday after their annual break.

TRUTH OF THE MATTER is, not that lawmakers on Capitol Hill are ignorant of their responsibilities to the electorate, who in the first place gave them the power they wield, but for greed and sheer selfishness, representatives and senators just turn their backs on the people, once they get the power.

MOST OFTEN, THEY never complete projects embarked upon in their respective constituencies during the entire tenure in office until the year of election then they run back to their constituents, seeking re-election. Of the 15 senators that contested in the December 8, 2020 special senatorial election, only two returned, accompanied by new faces.

THIS RESULT CLEARLY indicates that voters had never received services promised by politicians in their campaigns. For instance, in Maryland County, southeast Liberia where Speaker Bhofal Chamber hails from, citizens, including marketers and educators are enraged over abandoned projects that should have benefited their lives.

IT IS NOT only sad, but highly disappointing that elected officials would renege on delivering services promised to the people, but always want to represent them in the First Branch of Government. In reality, they get elected to serve their personal interests rather than the people.

VICE PRESIDENT JEWEL Taylor herself a former senator, flared some of the burning issues confronting Liberians generally, ranging from insecurity, banknotes shortage, high cost of living, a sluggish economy characterized by lack of basic services and distrust and mistrust, amid allegations and counter-allegations.

IN ALL OF these, the common man in the street feels the pinch more, because he stands at the margin of society and is therefore, the first to take the shocks. Yet, politicians always go to him and other poverty-stricken citizens across the country for votes with wide promises that they don't really intend to deliver.

VICE PRESIDENT TAYLOR is challenging lawmakers to make a complete turn-around and prioritize welfare of the people: justice and security, economy, reconciliation and unity, opportunities and development.

WE JOIN MADAM Taylor in sending this message down the minds of lawmakers returning at the Capitol. Our people deserve better. Service delivery should take priority in all businesses that would come on the floor in the interest of the people, rather than the other way around.

The New Dawn
TRULY INDEPENDENT

Published by the Searchlight Communications Inc.,
UN Drive, P.O. Box 1266 Opposite National Investment Commission,
Monrovia-Liberia. Tel: +231-06484201, +231-77007529, +231-886978282 /
+231-775407211 Managing Editor: Othello B. Garblah; Editor-In-Chief: Jonathan

COMMENTARY

By Eric Posner

The Effort to Disqualify Trump Is Worth It

By opening the door for Donald Trump's possible disqualification from future office-holding, a second impeachment would be justified, even if conviction and removal by the Senate is a long shot. Unlike his previous scandals, Trump's attempts to undermine the 2020 election clearly rise to constitutional dimensions.

CHICAGO - On Friday, January 8, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi announced plans to impeach US President Donald Trump for the second time in a year, hoping to drive him from office before he does more damage to the country. The first effort, which began in December 2019 and ended last February, was futile and unwise, and ended up giving Trump a small political boost. This time around, Democrats again face steep odds, but they should move forward. Impeachment offers the possibility of barring Trump from holding office again, and that alone justifies the risk of failure.

Under the US Constitution, the House of Representatives must first approve the articles of impeachment with a majority vote. With the Democrats holding a majority, this would be the easy part. The hard part comes in the Senate, where 17 Republican senators would have to join the Democrats to provide the two-thirds majority required to remove and disqualify the president.

Many people have been waiting for years for Republicans to acknowledge Trump's unfitness for office and abandon him. But despite a litany of scandals, policy failures, and outrageous lies, Trump has maintained his base, forcing Republican politicians seeking re-election to seek his support. That simple fact explains why almost every Republican elected official has remained loyal to the president.

The first impeachment proceedings against Trump were based on his attempt to bully the Ukrainian government into investigating Joe and Hunter Biden, and his obstruction of Special Counsel Robert Mueller's investigation of Russian interference in the 2016 election. Not a single Republican member of the House voted for impeachment, and only one Republican senator - Mitt Romney of Utah - voted to remove him.

In fact, Trump's acquittal was a forgone conclusion. Both scandals were well known before the impeachment and had not damaged Trump's standing among Republicans. The Ukraine affair was too murky and remote from everyday concerns to impress voters, while the obstruction of justice charge was too legalistic. With no evidence that Trump had solicited Russian help in the election, the investigation could be portrayed as a political hatchet job.

The second impeachment follows two events of much greater significance: Trump's attempt in a January 2 telephone call to strongarm Georgia's secretary of state into overturning President-elect Joe Biden's victory in the state; and his incitement of the mob that invaded the US Capitol on January 6. House Democrats have already drafted a single article of impeachment labeled "incitement of insurrection," but a better title would have been "subversion of the presidential election." Trump's effort to undermine the outcome - by spuriously claiming voter fraud, interfering

with the conduct of election officials, and attempting to prevent certification of the electoral vote - clearly rises to constitutional dimensions.

That said, a conviction by the Senate is hardly certain. Although the Constitution refers legalistically to "high crimes and misdemeanors," senators are free to vote however they want. They are not compelled to convict Trump even if he committed crimes - and it is far from clear, given current public information, that either Trump's January 2 call or his January 6 speech were illegal under the technical requirements of US criminal law. As politicians first and foremost, Republican senators' main consideration will be the political consequences of their vote. Unless a substantial portion of Trump's base abandons him, they would need to see some other advantage in voting to convict.

Rapid erosion of Trump's base appears unlikely, considering that many Republican voters either don't believe that Trump instigated the riot or are glad that he did. On the other hand, corporate America's open revulsion against Trump may focus some minds. The National Association of Manufacturers, a major business lobby, has already called for the president's removal, and the leading social media firms have banned him from their platforms. Although Republican elected officials cannot afford to alienate their base, nor can they afford to alienate corporate America.

Moreover, now that Trump has been deprived of his Twitter megaphone, his hold on his base is in doubt. Given that the Republicans have lost the House, the Senate, and the White House in a single presidential term, Republican politicians might now be wondering what good he has done for their party.

Still, Democrats are fooling themselves if they think that the sheer enormity of recent events will yield enough Republican votes against Trump in the Senate. Republicans who fear primary voters might simply argue that Trump did not offer bribes or issue explicit threats on the January 2 call. They might also point out that Trump did not openly call for violence on January 6, and that he could not have foreseen that the Capitol police would fall down on the job. Such claims may be woodenly formalistic and divorced from context, but they could at least provide cover for Republican voters who otherwise disapprove of political violence and are struggling to rationalize their longtime support for Trump.

A more serious problem is that Republican senators could run out the clock. They retain control of the Senate until Inauguration Day - January 20 - and may simply refuse to meet and hold the trial until Trump has left office. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell has already suggested as much. Or, if they do meet, they could insist on hearings, arguing that the president is entitled to ample time to prepare a defense.



Lord, let us here oo

Dear Father:

Hmmm, 2020 and all gone oo, let us here oo. The way it treated us sefna fun. And you know, come to think of it, me I na blame the people them who say they will not add 2020 to their ages because the thing 2020 did around the world da na small thing.

They say they did not do anything, so hat year should not be added to their ages. Me, I na there oo because I got married in that year.

But who will you blame na my son?
Father, who else I will blame besides this Corona girl. She started her gronna thing in Pekin Land I na know why she na stay there and starting moving from village to village causing trouble for everybody.

Can you imagine, our own village that already gat its own trouble she didn't spare us. Father da na small trouble Corona brought in 2020.

But has she gone with it sef?
Father da the million dollar question there oo. All the trouble and pain she caused people, everybody think say she went with it but we still hearing news that she has developed another baby that is wicked than herself.

Da true?
Oh, Father, da what we hearing all over the pace oo. The one she did in our village in the first three months where married women and married men seized their partner them and all the side chicks and side boyfriends them were catching it, it na satisfy her?
So what is the name of her baby?

Father, we only know it as Corona baby here oo, buut the book people say da new variant. They said da new one is wicked it can't waste time.

Hmm, but ehn the people say they na find vaccine for it?
Aah, da what they say oo, but the vaccine sef da trouble.
What do you mean?

Father, the people in Uncle Sam's village and his cousins are telling other people na to take it because they say that the devil mark they will be giving people.

Tell me something!
Oh, Father, you na hear da one yet? They say that 666, ehn you na hear about the Mark of the Beast-oo. Some even say the vaccine get something in it that when you take it they will be spying on you everywhere you go and anything you do. Imagine some of the people in Uncle Sam's village have refused to even take it-even our man Doe-Nut says he na taking it.
Da your other man pa da something else.

I say. The man na get time for anybody. He na turned the people village into something else and everybody na putting mouth on them.

Anyway we inside, at least they na taste some of the things we can go through in our little villages.

**The NewDawn Newspaper
is on the Newsstand Daily.**

**Grab a copy of today's edition
or visit: <https://thenewdawnliberia.com/>**



With Jones Mallay

fredrickdiamondm@yahoo.com

LIBERIA POLITICAL HOT-FIRE

Can Pres. Weah Football Popularity Earns Him A 2nd-Term in 2023 Given the Humiliating Defeat His Party Sustained in the December 8th. 2020 Senatorial Election?

The Congress for Democratic Change was established in 2004. A credible source revealed that one Joshua Sackie led a movement to petition President Weah to contest the Liberian presidency for the first time in 2005 because according to the source George Weah wanted to kill himself due to the unavailability of a job. The movement was quickly transformed into a political party known and styled today as Congress for Democratic Change, CDC.

The party was officially certificated in July 2005 by the National Elections Commission as a political party to contest the October general and presidential elections which took Pres. What to an election for the first time when he was endorsed as the party standard-bearer in a convention held in August 2005? The CDC is not one of the known mainstream political parties in Liberia such as the Unity Party, Liberty Party, National Democratic Party of Liberia, etc., it was formed out of political desperation by George Weah to gain political power according to one source familiar with the CDC.

CDC political survival and total independence rest exclusively on the shoulders of Pres. George MannahWeah's popularity which he earned during his 18 years of successful football adventures at home and abroad. Interestingly, looking at the illiteracy rate at 52% in Liberia coupled with acute poverty, weak educational system, and devastating economy, Pres. With magnificently used his advantage to translate his 18 years of football popularity to exploit those volatilized sectors in gaining a huge political victory first, as senior Senator in 2014 and current Liberia 25th president.

Pres. Weah's popularity resonated with Liberia's young millennium, especially the so-called downtrodden, Yanna-boys, market women, school dropouts, and most especially ex-rebel fighters and war-lords who viewed him as their Mensah, a Hero and their guy who will not implement a war crime court in Liberia. He was also viewed as a downtrodden who lived and grew up and experienced acute poverty and survived in one of Monrovia's known slums Borough of New Kru Town, like thousands of other less fortunate young Liberians.

Aside from the aforementioned different populations, there is another population that joined the rank and file of Pres. Weah's CDC, that population includes some traditional corrupt retired Liberian politicians whose fundamental mission in the CDC is to exploit Pres. Due to his little experience in politics and lack of exposure internationally to manage a government. The CDC party is therefore a host to multiple different populations with computing interests and hidden political objectives.

For example, the massive humiliation defeat of the CDC in the just ended Dec. 8th, 2020 Senatorial election is a serious referendum on Pres. Weah's popularity and his bid for the 2023 presidential election for his 2nd term. It is also a huge referendum on the entire CDC's different computing populations within the rank of the CDC starting with its centralized leadership trend. Emphatically, the entire CDC leadership has zero popularity of its own and zero political influence and contacts at home and abroad.

Sources confirmed that 95% of CeDecians and their leadership are regarded as a bunch of hustlers and wealth hunters, who are militant in thinking, lack interest in schooling, lack domestic political experience, very acrimonious, emotional, lack former education to manage the CDC as a political institution. The source continues, the CeDecians possessed the characteristics of being desperately provocative with rebellion posture and intolerable. What is annoying according to the source is the fact that when experienced, well-educated and politically talented Liberians try to join the CDC party, Cedecians fostered politics of marginalization, segregation, discrimination and suddenly declared such person of interest as a stranger in the CDC party. As a result, the new members leave the party. This is one major problem that will continue to create avenues of defeat for the CDC's political party in Liberia.

Another problem that will always cause the defeat of CeDecians in any future political contest is their habitual singing tendencies, yelling attitude, marginalization theory within its rank and file, direct and indirect extortion of money from people for jobs, massive corrupt practices, making tremendous unnecessary political battle-cries coupled with numerous militant proclamations to energize CeDecians politically, is doing the CDC more harm than good. The CDC party is not financially accountable and transparent, the party according to one source survives on state resources, because the entire leadership lacks the abilities and the experience to generate funds apart from donations, heavy fines, and taxations of its poor members, and exertion of funds for the promise of a job.

Another problem that would affect CDC future elections will be due to Pres. What's a failure to address the acute multiple economic, social welfare, educational challenges facing the downtrodden masses, especially the youth who do not have food to eat, and do they have a place to sleep. Most of the youths in the CDC party have either become visible vagabonds or they have lost total hope in Pres. Weah and the CDC have no solution to their nightmare. The party has created a middleman status where the top dogs look down on the illiterate youths in the party and this will continue to affect CDC future changes to succeed in any political elections.

The final problem is the fact that CDC has marginalized its original political alliances, these include, the National Patriotic Party and the Liberia People's Democratic Party. All political appointees are Cedecians. Members of the alliance are being discriminated against and sidelined by CDC political doctrine of discrimination and segregation constitutes a deep-seated betrayal by leadership endorsed by Pres. We will affect CDC in any future political elections.

Copyright: Project Syndicate, 2020. www.project-syndicate.org

ARTICLE

ARTICLE

Why so much time from election to inauguration of a U.S. president?

By Share America
Jan 14, 2021

While many democracies swap in new leaders in a sprint, the U.S. ambles along with a transition period of 11 weeks.

But slow as that might seem, it's shorter than the four months the Constitution originally left for the handoff of power from an incumbent to a new president.

Picking up the pace

The original November-March period between presidents was designed in the 18th century, when moving information and people around the country was a slow process. Unlike in many parliamentary democracies where cabinet members are often drawn from parliament, whose members live and work in the capital, political talent in the U.S. is spread across a vast country. The difficulties the United States felt during the Great Depression helped convince leaders to swear in any newly elected president more quickly, shortening the original four-month "lame duck" period to less than three months. (The term "lame duck" refers to an elected official whose successor has already been elected. Such an individual is in a weakened position politically.)



The 20th Amendment, ratified in 1933, set the new inauguration date at January 20. Presidential elections are still held in early November.

"It does take time to pull together a cabinet and entire top tier of government," said Jeffrey A. Engel, director of the Center for Presidential History at Southern Methodist University. "Every time a new presidential administration comes in, you have to apply frosting to the cake. The cake is the permanent bureaucracy, [and the frosting is the new appointees and Cabinet members]. As any baker knows, you can put frosting on in 30 seconds, but it doesn't look great."

A depiction of a scene in 1789 in which George Washington is greeted in Trenton, New Jersey, on his way to his inauguration as America's first president. (©Alamy)

America's unique democracy

Another reason for the U.S. retaining a nearly three-month transition period between presidents is that instead of the election being decided by the

winning party in parliamentary elections, the U.S. president is officially chosen by the Electoral College weeks after a popular election. While this means that presidents cannot take office right away, the declared winner can receive funds for the transition and briefings from the outgoing administration.

Americans themselves appreciate transition time because the Thanksgiving holiday falls soon after the election and is followed quickly by Christmas, Hanukkah and other winter holidays, said Elizabeth B. Goldsmith, professor emerita at Florida State University.

The U.S. also is different in that the president is both the head of government and the head of state. (Imagine replacing both the British prime minister and queen at the same time.)

As leisurely as the power transition may seem, the switchover at the White House is so fast on January 20 that it requires a tactical team of government employees. The exiting president usually leaves his White House home for the inauguration and the new president moves in a few hours later. Goldsmith said hundreds of employees start working at the crack of dawn so that the 132 rooms of private residence and public spaces are ready for the incoming president.

"It goes into high action," said Goldsmith, an expert on American homes. "They're making the beds, taking out the toothbrushes. There's a whole lot going on behind the scenes."

7TH DAY'S SESSION: IN THE MONTHLY AND PROBATE COURT FOR MONT. CO.
MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2020
JANUARY TERM A.D. 2020

SHEET ONE

THE MONTHLY AND PROBATE COURT FOR MONTERRADO COUNTY, MET FOR NORMAL TRANSACTION OF BUSINESS WITH HIS HONOR, J. VINTON HOLDER. DEVOTION WAS CONDUCTED AND THEREAFTER THE ROLL OF ALL THE CLERICAL STAFF WAS CALLED WITH THOSE ABSENT DULY NOTED. THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS DAY'S SITTING WAS CORRECTED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED WITH THE NECESSARY CORRECTIONS MADE BASED UPON MOTION TO THE COURT BY COUNSEL WHICH WAS SECONDED AND GRANTED TO FORM PART OF TODAY'S SESSION.

COURT: Mr. Sheriff, recess hour having expired, court now resumes normal business. And so ordered.

Court: Mr. Sheriff, call the case, the petition for Reading of the Will of the late KOLUBAH ZIZI TELEWODA HOWARD/BAI HOWARD

The petitioner is represented by the Jones and Jones law firm and present in court is LAVELA Koboi Johnson, Sr. who says he is in Court and has a submission to make after representation are noted. And submits.

The representation of the Counsel for the petitioner is hereby noted. The Court says Counsel for the petitioner may now proceed. And it is so ordered.

Court: Mr. Clerk you are hereby ordered to break the seal on the brown envelope and read the contents in open Court. And is so ordered.

Clerk: Your Honor, as per your Honor's orders, I herewith unseal a brown envelope purported to contained 3 pages issued by the late Hon Kolubah Zizi Telewoda/Bai Telewoda which I now read. and I have discovered therefrom a three page document, KOLUBAH Zizi Howa /ai Howard which I now read.

Thus ends the reading of the last will and Testament as per your Honor's instruction. The area are presented by the Century law offices and present in Court are Cllrs. Willie D. Barclay and lavela Koboi Johnson Sr. who says he is in Court with the petitioner and most respectfully request your Honor, Counsels and others have and application to spread on the minutes of Court after representations are fully noted.

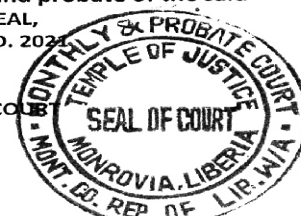
Court: The submission by the Counsel for petitioners and the Request by counsel is hereby granted. And it is so ordered.

At this stages, one of counsel for the petitioners prays your Honor and this Honorable Court to order the breaking of the Seal containing the last will and testament of Hon. Koluba Zizi Telewoda/Bai Howard., thereafter have the same read in open court and that your Honor will order the Clerk of Court to issue letters Testementary to the Executor or executors named in said will who thereafter will proceed with the administration of the testate Estate of the late Hon. Koluba Zizi Howard,

Thus end the reading of the last Will and testament and submit

Court: The instrument purporting to be the last will and testament of the late Koluba Ziz Telewoda Howard having been read in open court as required by law, the Clerk of this Court is hereby ordered to issue public notice and have same posted on the bulletin of this Court and said public notice published in at least one legalize Newspaper for a period of 30 days for the purpose of any would be objector to file their formal objections thereto within the period of 30 days,. Their failure so to do this court will be left with no other alternative but to proceed with the admission and probate of the said GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL, THIS 11 DAY OF JANUARY A.D. 2020

J. Vinton Holder
JUDGE, MONTHLY & PROBATE COURT
MONTERRADO COUNTY, R.L.



WWW **Advertize Here!**
Subscribe to our website
get the best of balance and accurate news, delivered daily

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

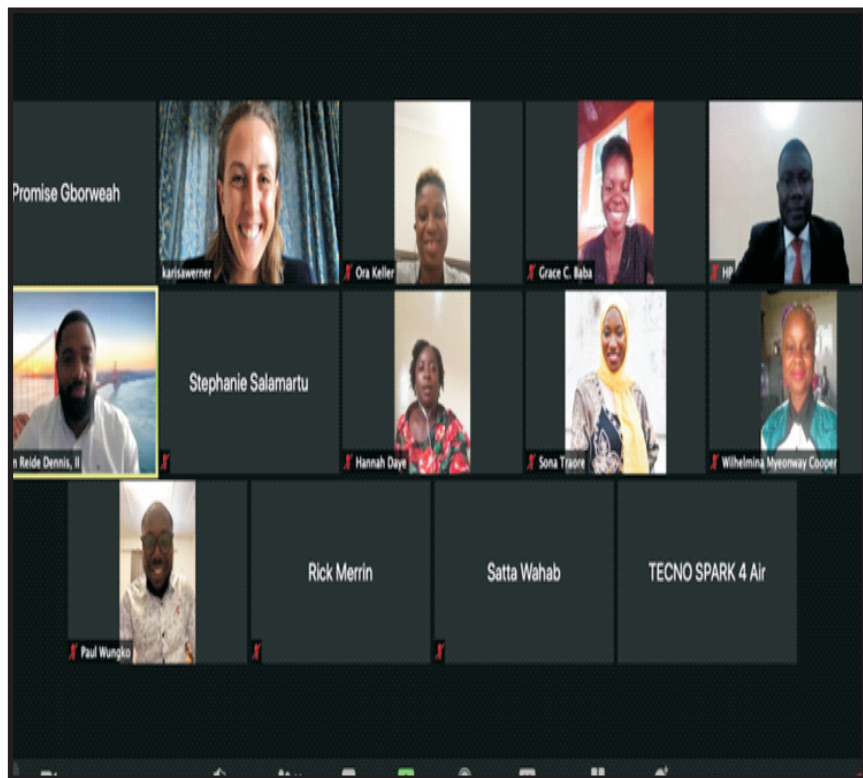
MORE HEADLINE NEWS

U.S. Embassy hosts 12 young entrepreneurs -for virtual workshop

The U.S. Embassy Monrovia, in conjunction with the Liberian Chamber of Commerce and the Business Startup Center Monrovia, hosted a virtual workshop and Q&A session for young entrepreneurs in Liberia on

January 13, 2021. Twelve Liberian entrepreneurs with businesses in different stages of development attended the four-hour long event. The Embassy's political and economic counselor, Joel Kopp, gave the opening remarks,

highlighting the important role that entrepreneurs play in national economic growth. William Dennis II from the Business Startup Center led the group in a five-part workshop in which the group learned the importance of establishing a business plan, conducting market analysis, creating value for their products, marketing and advertising their goods, and creating an investment plan. Then, Francis Dennis, the former president of the Liberian Chamber of Commerce, was joined by Jerome B. Bryant, a senior investment advisor at the Liberian Enterprise Development Finance Company (LEDFC), for a Q&A session during which they discussed the importance of having a strong business plan when seeking capital. In their closing remarks, the event hosts reminded the group to stick to their passions, to carefully think through their businesses processes, to pay attention to all the details, and to maintain strong records. - Press Release



Foreign Minister receives honorary police chief title

By Winston W. Parley

Police authorities in Monrovia have bestowed the Liberia National Police (LNP's) highest honor on Liberia's Foreign Minister Dee - Maxwell Saah Kemayah, Sr., gowning and pinning the Dean of the Cabinet as Honorary Police Chief for his remarkable moves that have resulted to LNP officers' deployment on United Nations peacekeeping mission. On Thursday, 14 January,

certified by the UN Peacekeeping Department after successfully completing the United Nations Required Test conducted by Successful Selection Assistance & Assessment Team (SAAT). Of that number, the first batch of four officers are being deployed to South Sudan. The police here indicate that while Mr. Kemayah served as Liberia's Ambassador to the UN in New York, he paved the way within the UN system which



Foreign Minister Dee - Maxwell Saah Kemayah, Sr.

Fallah wants GOL tuition-free education legislated

By Bridgett Milton

Ruling Coalition for Democratic Change defeated senatorial candidate and Montserrado County electoral district #5 Representative Thomas P. Fallah, has written the House of Representatives, seeking support for an Act to establish a special fund to support and sustain Government of Liberia tuition-free scheme for at the University of Liberia and all public universities and colleges, including payment of WASSCE fees for ninth and twelfth graders (public and private) in the country.

According to Rep. Fallah, considering education as fundamental to the growth and development of any nation, the legislation when passed into law, will seek to positively enhance the educational system.

"Mr. Speaker, I have attached the Act to create a special education fund to support and sustain the tuition-free scheme for the University of Liberia, all public universities and colleges programs, and the free WASSCE fees for ninth and

twelfth graders in Liberia for plenary consideration and passage", the District#5 lawmaker writes. In a letter dated January 13, 2021 and addressed to Speaker

inequality by increasing college enrollment, lowering pressure on students and parents and improve completion term of students especially, amongst underprivileged ones. He added the act will help



Representative Thomas P. Fallah

Bhofal Chambers, Rep. Fallah said sustaining the tuition-free scheme for the University of Liberia and all public universities and colleges will mitigate current economic

to reduce financial burden on students and parents and increase senior high enrollment and academic outputs from the student populace.

four commissioned LNP Officers including their team leader Chief Superintendent Togba J. Massaquoi, Chief Superintendent Anthony Blaye, Superintendent Rachel Briggs Harris and Sergeant Abdullai Dukuly, Jr. were scheduled to leave Liberia for deployment to South Sudan on UN Peacekeeping mission, the first time ever for Liberian police.

South Sudan faced a civil war, which broke out on December 2013 and lasted up to February 2020 before a unity government was formed between President Salva Kiir and rival Riek Machar.

Liberian police authorities say 34 LNP officers comprising 31 males and 3 females were

now makes it possible for Liberia to send its first batch of police peacekeepers on a UN peacekeeping mission. The first four of Liberian police are being deployed to South Sudan on a peacekeeping mission with the UN, and the mission is expected to last for a year after which a new batch of officers may be dispatched to Southern Sudan based on the prevailing security situation.

During a dinner held in honor of the four departing LNP officers Wednesday night, 13 January at a local bar on Capitol Hill, Minister Kemayah was gowned and pinned with a police batch with the inscription "Chief of Police."

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 11

He said the aim is to see all public schools across the country free and rallies his colleagues in the House, "We are all parents here and it's about time that we all get involved."

The Montserrado County lawmaker said government has to take the burden off the head of parents and when the act is enacted into law, it would go beyond this administration and administrations to come so that students would benefit and parents ease from the

burden of paying WASSCE fees. At the same time he called on members of the House of Representatives to support the proposed act by enacting it into law.

He said this could be a good step in improving the country's economy.

Meanwhile, the communication has sent to the committee on education and ways, means and Finance to report in two weeks. -Editing by Jonathan Browne

ARTICLE

ARTICLE

Bong county: Women Boycotted the Referendum to Teach Government a Lesson

By: Joseph Titus Yekeryan

Insufficient voter education left many Liberians hesitant to make a “yes” or “no” decision in the national referendum vote organized on December 8, 2020.

Approximately two thirds of registered voters voting in the referendum cast an invalid ballot, according to official data published by the National Elections Commission (NEC).

“Before the election, we were calling on the big-big people to [change the]

Tenneh W. Tokpah, a visually impaired widow, said that since she asked her son to explain to her what the referendum was and what was she supposed to do, but he could not help either.

“Because of that, when I entered the voting hall, since he too did not know about it, I only told him to vote for my candidate and leave the rest of the papers unmarked.”

“I think those who are responsible need to make sure that civic and voter education can be done before this kind of elections. This is about the constitution, so you don’t just jump up and start to do your own thing,” Tokpah said.

Nancy Jimmy, a certified nurse in Bong County wants the government to re-organize the National Referendum to enable citizens’ full participation.

“All I can say is that NEC needs to re-conduct the referendum. I am saying that because decision about the country needs the participation of everyone, and not just a few people since provisional results have already made us to understand that there were too many invalid votes, I think it will be important for us to go back the polls and vote again.”

“When that is done, everyone will feel being part of the constitutional decision and no one will feel left out of the process,” nurse Jimmy said.

According to Article 91 of the Constitution states that the constitution amendments must be validated by “two-thirds of the registered voters, voting in a referendum conducted by the Elections Commission not sooner than one year after the action of the Legislature.”

In this case, two thirds of the 30.5% voters that cast a ballot needed to have marked “yes” in order to validate a proposition.

Voters decided on eight prepositions, seeking amendments to Article 28 on dual citizenship, Article 45 to reduce the senators’ tenure from nine to seven year, and Article 48 to reduce the tenures of members of the House of Representatives from six to five years.

Moreover, the referendum seeks to amend Article 50 to reduce the tenures of the President and Vice President from six to five years, and to amend Article 83 (a) to change the date of the general elections from the second Tuesday in October to that same Tuesday in November.



Nayquita Yarkpawolo, the Head of the Rural Women United. Photo Credit: Joseph Titus Yekeryan

time for the referendum but they never listened to us and I can clearly say that they forced it on us. I just left the entire [ballot] paper like that, and I put it in the [ballot] box because I don’t know what was on it,” said Nayquita Yarkpawolo Tokpah, the President of the Rural Women United for Improved Businesses in Bong county.

Yarkpawolo said that most of her colleagues from the Gbarnga central market, in Bong county, never marked the referendum ballot paper, which she believes will be a lesson for the government to pay attention next time when voters ask to know about what they are voting on.

“We planned this as a group, we only went to vote for our [Senate] candidates but never marked any of those referendum ballots.” Yarkpawolo said the women will continue to boycott elections as long as the government fails to properly teach voters about the referendum and what it means.

The women voters, many of whom have told journalists that they did not touch the referendum ballot paper, cited little or no awareness as part of the reason why they felt hesitant and to make a choice in the referendum and instead folded the ballot paper and placed it in the ballot box unmarked.

Based on current published results from the NEC, only about 30.5% of the registered voters cast their referendum ballot. In Bong County, about two thirds of the referendum ballots were invalid.

Well before the election date, voters across the country expressed concerns that they have not been educated on how to vote in the referendum.



Madam Tenneh W. Tokpah, A visually impaired woman Photo Credit: Joseph Titus Yekeryan

Français

Visas : deux députés français plaident pour l'Afrique

M'jid El Guerrab, député des Français de l'étranger dont la circonscription couvre l'Afrique du Nord et l'Afrique de l'Ouest, et Sira Sylla, élue de Seine-Maritime et spécialiste des sujets touchant les diasporas africaines.

Trop long, trop cher, trop restrictif, souvent incompréhensible... En Afrique, obtenir un visa pour la France relève encore trop souvent du parcours du combattant. Deux députés de la majorité se sont emparés du sujet et présentent aujourd'hui un rapport visant à faciliter le processus.

« Cette mission est née d'un sentiment de décalage entre l'ambition affichée par l'exécutif et la réalité sur le terrain. » C'est ainsi que débute le rapport d'information présenté ce 12 janvier devant la commission des Affaires étrangères de l'Assemblée nationale française par deux députés issus des rangs de la majorité : Sira Sylla, élue de Seine-Maritime et spécialiste des sujets touchant les diasporas africaines, et M'jid El Guerrab, député des Français de l'étranger dont la

circonscription couvre l'Afrique du Nord et l'Afrique de l'Ouest.

Dans le cadre de leurs fonctions, tous deux affirment être « très souvent » sollicités par des électeurs rencontrant des problèmes de visa : étudiants, Français en couple avec un étranger, entreprises souhaitant faire venir des salariés pour une mission ponctuelle... Des requêtes si nombreuses qu'elles les ont incités à se pencher sur le processus de délivrance des

45 % DES DEMANDES DE VISAS FORMULÉES PAR DES ALGÉRIENS SONT REFUSÉES

Partout, on évoque des délais trop longs, des tarifs élevés et surtout un taux de refus exceptionnellement haut. « L'Afrique subsaharienne représente 15 % de la population mondiale mais seulement 10 % des visas délivrés par la France », notent les deux rapporteurs, qui soulignent que certains pays sont particulièrement

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Après les élections et le référendum, la Commission électorale reste endettée jusqu'au cou

Outre les contentieux électoraux relatifs aux élections sénatoriales spéciales du 8 décembre 2020, la Commission électorale nationale libérienne serait aux prises avec d'autres problèmes, a appris ce journal.

Le corps électoral risquerait des poursuites judiciaires de la part des fournisseurs et des manifestations potentielles de la part des agents électoraux qui réclament une rémunération de leurs services lors des élections sénatoriales et du référendum constitutionnel du 8 décembre

2020.

La NEC a loué les services de plusieurs fournisseurs et des agents électoraux avant, pendant et après les élections du 8 décembre, mais avec la lenteur du financement, la voilà maintenant avec d'énormes dettes.

Parmi ses fournisseurs figurent la Ghanaian Bulk Press qui a imprimé les bulletins de vote pour les élections et le référendum, les presses locales, les médias et les agents électoraux à travers le pays.

Les informations dont dispose ce quotidien font état d'une dette de plus de 4 millions de dollars américains accumulée pour l'organisation des élections sénatoriales de mi-mandat et du référendum constitutionnel.

Le budget réel proposé par la NEC pour l'organisation des élections sénatoriales spéciales et du référendum constitutionnel était d'environ 17 millions de

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Un journaliste et le directeur de publication de "La lettre du continent" relaxés, poursuivis en diffamation

Le tribunal de Paris a relaxé un journaliste et le directeur de publication de "La lettre du continent", poursuivis en diffamation par le président ivoirien Alassane Ouattara pour un article de 2017 sur les fonds souverains de ce pays. Le président avait porté plainte en France après la publication d'une brève intitulée "Côte d'Ivoire - Ouattara fait exploser les fonds souverains", publiée le 30 août 2017 dans le bimensuel, aujourd'hui devenu un quotidien sous le nom d'Africa Intelligence. Dans cet article très court, le journal écrivait que M. Ouattara "bénéficiait" d'un fonds souverain de 342,6 milliards de francs CFA soit 521 millions d'euros, "en hausse de 20 milliards par rapport à 2015", une "enveloppe

imputaient par insinuation de se livrer à un détournement de fonds publics, avec la complicité de son frère". Il contestait les chiffres avancés comme étant un "amalgame inexact de plusieurs rubriques budgétaires". "La décision est satisfaisante dans le sens où le tribunal reconnaît le caractère diffamatoire des propos", a réagi jeudi son avocat Me Pierre-Emmanuel Blard, qui a indiqué étudier l'opportunité d'un appel.

Dans ce dossier, la défense avait souligné l'indépendance de la rédaction vis-à-vis des gouvernements et partis, rappelant que le sujet de l'article attaqué avait déjà été traité par le journal en 2012 et 2014, tout en défendant la bonne foi du journaliste et le sérieux de l'enquête. "On a



budgetaire" dans laquelle il pouvait "d'autant mieux puiser à sa guise" qu'elle était "directement gérée par son frère, le ministre des affaires présidentielles Birahima Téné Ouattara".

Dans son jugement, le tribunal a estimé que les propos étaient bien diffamatoires mais que les prévenus devaient être relaxés au bénéfice de la bonne foi. Le tribunal a souligné que l'article s'inscrivait dans un "débat d'intérêt général" et que le journaliste disposait d'une "base factuelle suffisante" pour publier les propos. Il a aussi relevé le "ton modéré" utilisé "à l'exception de quelques termes critiques", qui "demeurent adaptés à la ligne éditoriale" de la publication. M. Ouattara estimait que ces propos "lui

fait notre travail de journaliste, le tribunal l'a reconnu", a déclaré jeudi à l'AFP le directeur de publication Maurice Botbol. Alassane Ouattara, 78 ans, a été réélu le 31 octobre pour un troisième mandat controversé, jugé inconstitutionnel par l'opposition, qui a boycotté le scrutin et ne reconnaît pas sa réélection. Les violences électorales ont fait 85 morts et un demi-millier de blessés entre août et novembre. Marquant une nouvelle décripation de la situation politique, l'ensemble de l'opposition ivoirienne a cependant annoncé jeudi sa participation aux élections législatives du 6 mars avec pour objectif de décrocher "la majorité au Parlement".

Advertise with us!

Français

La vice-présidente Taylor

mal traités. Ainsi, si le taux moyen de refus de visas est de 16,3 % au niveau mondial, il atteint 45 % pour les demandeurs algériens.

Un problème humain et politique

Le problème est à la fois individuel, humain - familles séparées, étudiants empêchés de fréquenter les universités françaises, opportunités professionnelles gâchées... - et politique, souligne Sira Sylla : « Je travaille tout particulièrement sur le continent et sur la concrétisation des propos tenus par le président de la République lors de son discours de Ouagadougou, lorsqu'il a dit que l'Afrique était une priorité, qu'il fallait parler de mobilité circulaire, d'un partenariat reconstruit... »

La difficulté rencontrée pour obtenir un visa, y compris dans le cadre de dispositifs censés faciliter la circulation comme Campus France ou le système « passeport talent », va clairement à l'encontre des propositions d'Emmanuel Macron, et les deux députés veulent y remédier.

« Ce qui ressort de mes échanges avec les gens de la diaspora, mais aussi avec les habitants du continent, comme ceux de Djibouti, où j'étais hier, c'est une attitude pragmatique. Beaucoup ont le sentiment que la France les a oubliés. Qu'elle vit sur une rente de situation, notamment avec les pays francophones. Alors ils s'en détournent. À Djibouti, les gens m'ont dit clairement : aujourd'hui, notre partenaire, c'est la Chine. » Durant plusieurs mois, les deux députés ont donc rencontré de nombreux acteurs intervenant dans la délivrance de visas à destination des ressortissants du continent. Ils tirent

plusieurs constats de leur enquête.

Devant un centre de visas à Johannesburg, en Afrique du Sud, le 19 mars 2020.

D'abord, ils observent un réel problème d'équilibrage dans la gestion gouvernementale du système. Aujourd'hui, en France, la politique d'attribution des visas est copilotée par les ministères des Affaires étrangères et de l'Intérieur. Or « depuis le mandat de Nicolas Sarkozy », de 2007 à 2012, c'est ce dernier ministère qui a pris l'ascendant, faisant passer les questions de sécurité et de lutte contre l'immigration irrégulière avant toute autre considération. « La sécurité c'est important, admet Sira Sylla, mais il ne faut pas non plus négliger l'attractivité de la France. » ON NE VOIT PLUS, COMME AVANT, CES LONGUES FILES D'ATTENTE DEVANT LES CONSULATS

Deuxième observation : la délégation d'une partie du processus de délivrance à des prestataires privés (qui assurent notamment la collecte des pièces justificatives et la prise de rendez-vous) semble avoir eu un impact positif. « Sans ces prestataires, on n'aurait tout simplement pas pu répondre à la demande dans certains pays. Ils ont fluidifié le processus », assure M'jid El Guerrab.

« J'étais sceptique au départ, rebondit Sira Sylla. Confier une mission qui relève du régalien à des acteurs privés, cela me posait problème. Mais j'ai été agréablement surprise. On ne voit plus, comme avant, ces longues files d'attente devant les consulats, les gens sont mieux accueillis, mieux respectés. » Rendre le processus plus juste et plus efficace

Le processus d'obtention d'un visa reste toutefois compliqué dans bien des cas, et demeure souvent trop long.

Les députés proposent d'ailleurs de généraliser le dispositif de délivrance des visas en quarante-huit heures.

Après les élections

dollars. Ce montant a été réduit de près de 4 millions de dollars américains. Et avec les deux élections législatives partielles, le budget retenu était de 13, 989 millions de dollars américains.

« La NEC n'a plus d'argent pour vous payer maintenant », a déclaré mardi sa présidente, Mme Davidetta Brown Lasanah, aux responsables des médias. Elle avait invité les médias pour les informer de la situation.

S'adressant aux agents

électorales, elle a dit : « Agents électoraux, soyez un peu patients, dès que nous aurons le financement, nous vous paierons tous ».

Pour elle, il est important d'informer les fournisseurs, car cela est un signe de respect. « C'est pourquoi », a-t-elle dit, « nous avons jugé important de vous appeler et de vous faire savoir que vous recevrez votre argent dès que le Ministère des finances et de la planification et du développement débloquent les fonds.

COMMENTAIRE

Par Eric Posner

Disqualifier Trump : le jeu en vaut la chandelle

CHICAGO - Le vendredi 8 janvier, la présidente de la Chambre des représentants Nancy Pelosi a annoncé son intention de lancer une procédure d'impeachment contre le président américain Donald Trump pour la deuxième fois en un an, dans l'espoir de le démettre de ses fonctions avant qu'il ne provoque de nouveaux ravages dans le pays. La première tentative, qui a débuté en décembre 2019 et s'est achevée en février dernier, a été vaine et imprudente et a fini par donner un petit coup de pouce politique à Trump. Cette fois-ci, les démocrates sont une fois encore loin de s'attendre à une victoire assurée, mais ils doivent faire avancer cette procédure d'impeachment. L'impeachment offre la possibilité d'interdire à Trump d'être à nouveau au pouvoir, un fait qui suffit à légitimer à lui seul le risque d'échec éventuel de cette procédure.

En vertu de la Constitution américaine, la Chambre des représentants doit d'abord approuver les articles de l'impeachment par un vote à la majorité. Avec une majorité démocrate, cela ne va pas présenter de grandes difficultés. Mais au Sénat, les choses vont se compliquer, puisque 17 sénateurs républicains devront se joindre aux démocrates pour fournir la majorité des deux tiers requise pour destituer et disqualifier le président.

Une foule de gens attendent depuis des années que les républicains reconnaissent l'inaptitude de Trump à exercer le pouvoir et qu'ils finissent par l'abandonner. Mais malgré une litanie de scandales, d'échecs politiques et de mensonges monstrueux, Trump maintient sa base, obligeant ainsi les politiciens républicains qui cherchent à se faire réélire à obtenir son appui. Ce simple fait explique pour quelle raison quasiment tous les élus républicains sont restés fidèles au président.

La première procédure d'impeachment contre Trump était fondée d'une part sur sa tentative d'intimidation du gouvernement ukrainien pour qu'il déclenche une enquête sur Joe et Hunter Biden, d'autre part sur son obstruction à l'enquête du Conseiller spécial Robert Mueller sur l'ingérence russe dans les élections de 2016. Aucun membre républicain de la Chambre n'a voté en faveur de l'impeachment et un seul sénateur républicain - Mitt Romney de l'Utah - a voté en faveur de sa destitution.

En fait, l'acquiescement de Trump n'a été une surprise pour personne. Ces deux scandales étaient bien connus avant l'impeachment et n'avaient pas nuï à la position de Trump au sein des républicains. Le dossier ukrainien était trop obscur et trop éloigné des préoccupations quotidiennes pour impressionner les électeurs, tandis que l'accusation d'entrave à la justice était trop légaliste. Sans aucune preuve que Trump ait sollicité l'aide de la Russie lors des élections, l'enquête pouvait être décrite comme une entreprise de démolissage politique.

Le deuxième impeachment fait suite à deux événements bien plus importants : la tentative de Trump le 2 janvier de forcer le Secrétaire d'État de Géorgie par téléphone à inverser les résultats de la victoire du président élu Joe Biden dans l'État ; et ses efforts dans le but d'exciter la foule qui a envahi le Capitole des États-Unis le 6 janvier. Les démocrates de la Chambre des

représentants ont déjà rédigé un article unique d'impeachment intitulé « incitation à l'insurrection », mais un meilleur titre aurait été « subversion de l'élection présidentielle ». La tentative de Trump en vue de décrédibiliser le résultat - en dénonçant, de façon mensongère, la fraude électorale, en interférant dans la conduite des agents électoraux et en essayant d'empêcher la certification du vote du Collège électoral - prend clairement des dimensions constitutionnelles.

Cela dit, une condamnation de la part du Sénat a peu de chances de se produire. Bien que la Constitution se réfère de manière légaliste aux « crimes et infractions graves », les sénateurs sont libres de voter comme ils l'entendent. Rien ne les oblige à condamner Trump même dans le cas où il aurait commis des crimes - ce qui est loin d'être clair, compte tenu des informations qui sont actuellement rendues publiques, soit que l'appel de Trump du 2 janvier, soit que son discours du 6 janvier soient illégaux selon les spécificités du droit pénal américain. Mais en premier lieu en tant qu'ils sont des politiciens, la principale considération des sénateurs républicains va pencher en faveur des conséquences politiques de leur vote. À moins qu'une partie substantielle de la base de Trump ne l'abandonne, ils vont chercher un autre avantage dans le vote en faveur de la condamnation, avant d'être convaincus.

Une érosion rapide de la base électorale de Trump semble peu probable, compte tenu du fait que de nombreux électeurs républicains soit ne croient pas que Trump ait été l'instigateur de cette émeute, soit sont heureux qu'il l'ait été. D'un autre côté, le dégoût sans fard des entreprises américaines à l'égard de Trump pourrait bien faire dresser l'oreille à certains d'entre eux. La National Association of Manufacturers, un important lobby d'affaires, a déjà demandé la destitution du président et les plus grandes sociétés de médias sociaux l'ont interdit sur leurs plateformes. Bien que les élus républicains ne puissent se permettre de se mettre leur base à dos, ils ne peuvent pas se permettre de se mettre les entreprises américaines à dos non plus.

En outre, maintenant que Trump est privé de son mégaphone Twitter, son emprise sur sa base est incertaine. Étant donné que les républicains ont perdu la Chambre des représentants, le Sénat et la Maison Blanche en un seul mandat présidentiel, les politiciens républicains pourraient à présent se demander ce que cet homme a fait de bon pour leur parti.

Pourtant, les démocrates se trompent s'ils pensent que l'énormité des récents événements va provoquer suffisamment de votes républicains contre Trump au Sénat. Les républicains qui craignent les électeurs des primaires pourraient simplement arguer du fait que Trump n'a pas offert de pots-de-vin ou n'a pas proféré de menaces explicites lors de l'appel du 2 janvier. Ils pourraient en outre souligner que Trump n'a pas ouvertement appelé à la violence le 6 janvier et qu'il ne pouvait pas prévoir que la police du Capitole allait compter des victimes dans ses rangs. De telles affirmations sont peut-être résolument formalistes et dissociées du contexte, mais elles peuvent au moins fournir une couverture aux électeurs républicains qui, autrement, désapprouvent la violence politique et cherchent par tous les moyens à rationaliser leur soutien de longue date en faveur de Trump.

Vote for me

By Ethel A. Tweh

Nimba County Senator Prince Y. Johnson, leader of the disbanded rebels Independent National Patriotic Front of Liberia (INPFL) has asked his colleague senators to elect him to the senate committee on defense, security and intelligence as chair.

He blames the committee for failure to summon the national security apparatus of the state over the disappearances of two boys and four suspicious deaths in the country last year.

Speaking during senate session Thursday, January 14,

the security apparatus wouldn't have gone free on this", he says and adds, "I however urge you all to vote for me [to] chair the committee on defense, security and intelligence."

Sen. PYJ previously chaired this very committee in the senate during the administration of former President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf.

He blames the entire senate for the way things are going on in the country, noting they approved and passed the national budget without performance report from the executive, which should be corrected to ensure accountability and transparency in the usage of

The Executive took off the county development funds, and there's [no] way for projects to be carried out that's why most people get voted out. Things that are in the budget are just beneficiary of the Executive." He laments.

According to him, there's money allocated in the national budget for the Ministry of Education, but yet most public schools around the country are in bad condition, noting the budget at MOE is being used to pay workers, buy big cars on travels, rather than furnishing and maintaining school buildings.

President George Manneh Weah Wednesday, instructed the Minister of Finance and Development Planning Samuel Tweah to provide 1,000 arm chairs for public schools, following a tour of several school districts in and around Monrovia.

Sen. PYJ says though he is a member of the ruling establishment, he will never be afraid to speak the truth in the interest of the Liberian people, and urges senators who are also part of the ruling establishment learn to speak truth to the President instead of always bowing to him, even when he is wrong.

He recalls that in 2017 when Mr. Weah then Montserrado County Senator wanted to become president, he invited senators to a meeting at Bella Cassa Hotel, Farmington Hotel and Royal Grand Hotel, respectively where they had dinner after which he (WEAH) pleaded with them that he is one of them and they should support his presidency.

It is because of the food the senators ate from President Weah when they pledged their support to him that's causing them to not say the truth to the President whenever he does wrong, Sen. Johnson concludes. **-Editing by Jonathan Browne**

public funds.

A supporter of President Weah, Sen. Johnson says the Executive is noted for sending the draft national budget very late to the Legislature for scrutiny and there are attempts to do due diligence to the financial instrument, some of their colleagues in the senate would urge that the budget be passed hurriedly to avoid the public from turning against them, if there were delay.

"Let the public turn against us if we are doing the right thing, but we can't have a budget sent to us in the last minutes and we pass it without carefully looking at it.



2021 at the Capitol in Monrovia Senator Johnson specifically noted that the committee on national defense, intelligence and security did not act when Liberia Revenue Authority staff Gifty Lama and Albert Peters mysteriously died and their bodies were found in a parked car on Broad Street, the heart of Monrovia.

"Those were two married people and if they wanted to cheat on their partners, they would have found a hotel and motel and gone there to cheat but not in an open place right on the street. If I were the chair for that committee,

Marylanders benefit COVID-19 stimulus food package

Patrick N. Mensah, Maryland County

Thousands of household members in Maryland County are currently receiving food rations as government COVID-19 Household Food Support Programme (COHFSP) distribution intensifies in the county.

More than 25,952 households in Maryland's four districts (Harper, Pleebo Sodoken, Karluway and Barrobo) have been enumerated to benefit from the food rations, says Program Officer of Caritas Cape Palmas, Waidi Bobo, the NGO partnering with the World Food Programme that is spearheading the food distribution.

Mr. Bobo told reporters that every qualify household in Maryland County will receive 2

However, he expressed concern over the "continuous disruption of distribution by some community residents, who do not understand the selection criteria and the mandate of the COHFSP that the food is intended only for the most vulnerable in the population, not everybody."

He blamed the situation on the lack of proper awareness-raising. "Lack of information and public awareness is the major hurdle driving disinformation among the people and that needs to be corrected," he mentioned.

Receiving the food rations, many recipients commended effort of the Liberian government and partners for the gesture.

Nyemade Davis, a resident of



bags of 25 kg rice, 1 gallon of oil, and 10 kilo of beans. He also confirmed that 25,952 households have been selected to benefit in the four districts.

Speaking to this paper at the start of the distribution on January 4, 2021 in the Harper City Hall, he said though the COHFSP implementation had experienced delay due to registration of beneficiaries, particularly identification and verification of most vulnerable households, it is now in full swing in Harper, Maryland County Electoral district #1 to be followed by Pleebo, Karluway and Barrobo districts, respectively.

He stressed that though, it is impossible for everyone to receive food because of the vulnerability condition attached by the government, but those eligible should exercise patience, as they would be served.

The Caritas program officer lauded the government through the WFP for such great opportunity accorded them in the southeastern region.

He explained Caritas Cape Palmas will fairly distribute the 1,080 metric tons of food items in Maryland County to those who supposed to receive.

Harper District and mother of four children, lauded President George Weah for fulfilling his promise made during the peak of the Covid-19 here.

"We are extremely happy for the support given us from the Government of Liberia, let God protection lead the government most specially, His Excellency, Dr. George Memeh Weah, who through his goodwill, we are receiving food items in this difficult time", she said.

Orathe N. Nyepan, a mother of six, and resident of Harper District said, she had thought the government wanted to play game due to protracted delay in providing the stimulus food package.

"Let me say thank to WFP, CARITAS and the National Government, although I had given up due to delay after our registration was done, but thank God today; I am going home with rice, bean and oil for my family and I to eat", she said.

Meanwhile, the stimulus food package distribution continues in the county with vulnerable citizens, including women, children, elderly persons, the visually-impaired and physically-challenged benefiting. **-Editing by Jonathan Browne**

WWW **Advertize Here!**

Subscribe to our website

get the best of balance and accurate news, delivered daily

Poll workers demand pay

By E. J. Nathaniel Daygbor

Poll workers of the just-ended December 08, Special Senatorial election have threatened series of protestations at the headquarters of the National Elections Commission, if authorities of the commission fail to settle pay arrears owed them for of services rendered during the polls.

The workers argue that it is unacceptable and

continues to engage the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning to make funds available to complete payment for all poll workers throughout the country.

Chairperson Davidetta Browne Lansanah addressing aggrieved poll workers who had gathered in front of the Commissions in Sinkor, Monrovia earlier Thursday, 14 January said the Commission, through its Finance Section is in day to day discussion with the Ministry of

payment arrangements with the Ministry of Finance particularly for those who have so far not received pay since the 8th December 2020 elections.

The NEC Chairperson, along with Commissioners Barsee Leo Kpangbai, Boakai A. Dukuly and Josephine Kou Gaye assures the poll workers that based on ongoing negotiations with the Ministry of Finance, they will in the soonest possible time receive



NEC Boss addresses protesting poll workers via megaphone

unbelievable for the electoral house to be indebted to them since the ended of the senatorial election, national referendum and two by-elections for the House.

However, the Chairperson of the National Elections Commission, (NEC) has made another passionate plea to the protesters to exercise patience as the Commission

Finance and Development Planning to quickly disburse remaining Five Million United States dollars (US\$5 Million) to clear all debts it owns not only poll workers, but vendors who also rendered electoral related services, including car rentals, printing houses and the media.

Madam Lansanah pleaded with poll workers to give the NEC at least one week to finalize

their money through a mobile money processing system recommended by the General Auditing Commission, GAC.

Earlier Thursday, dozens of poll workers gathered in front of the Headquarters of the National Elections Commission, demanding pay for services provided during last month's pay. **-Editing by Jonathan Browne**

Sherman fires

Start from back page

"Please be informed that more than 90 percent of my clients are foreign-owned corporations and foreign non-governmental organizations; very, very few are Lebanese or Lebanese nationals and even fewer are Liberian citizens. My firm is a corporal law firm; we engage primarily in transaction law, not litigation. Every retainer agreement signed with us to provide legal services or make any form of representation provides that our services shall comply with the US foreign corruption practices Act and the OECD convention on the corruption of foreign government officials," he says.

Cllr. Sherman maintains that with high standard of practice by his law firm, it is not possible to engage into bribery and routine of payments to judges to decide cases.

He has filed a former complaint before the Liberian Senate to look into the ban imposed on him by the U.S. Government.

Senate President Pro-tempore Albert Chie, disclosed here that his leadership has received a formal complaint from Senator Cllr. Varney Sherman, on the recent United States government's sanction placed on him (Sherman) for alleged bribery.

Speaking at a news conference Tuesday, January

12, at the Capitol Building, Pro-tempore Chie said Senator Varney's communication will be placed on the senate's floor for deliberation and subsequent actions.

Late 2020, the United States of America, through its Treasury Department, placed Global Magnitsky designations on several individuals in Africa and Asia, including Liberian Senator, Cllr. H. Varney G. Sherman, on grounds that he allegedly facilitated bribery in the judiciary and that, in one instance, he allegedly bribed his colleagues "to support impeachment of a judge who has ruled against him."

In a release, the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) said it is targeting corrupt actors and their networks across several countries in Africa and Asia, pursuant to Executive Order (E.O.) 13818, which builds upon and implements the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act, and targets perpetrators of corruption and serious human rights abuse.

"On International Anti-Corruption Day, Treasury remains fully committed to imposing costs on those who facilitate corruption at the expense of the people," said Deputy Secretary Justin G. Muzinich in the release. **-**

Editing by Jonathan Browne



Cont'd from page 7

Foreign Minister

thereby making him an honorary police officer.

While gowning the honoree, Col. Sudue notes that Minister Kemayah has done it for LNP, declaring that "Honorable Kemayah is a Chief of Police, we will pin him as a Chief!"

Col. Sudue asks Minister Kemayah to extend to his wife that the Liberia National Police appreciates her, noting that it's because of her that the Foreign Minister is here.

"Thank you, thanks to your family, thanks for all that you have done for LNP. We'll always remember you," Col. Sudue says.

Following the gowning ceremony, Minister Kemayah indicated that he was surprised that he had been gowned at the dinner, saying the police's communication inviting him for the program had not stated that he was

due to be honored.

"All I know from the letter he wrote is that I am coming for a dinner, farewell dinner in honor of our officers leaving for this historic mission," Minister Kemayah says.

Notwithstanding, the Foreign Minister dedicates the honor to his boss, President George Manneh Weah who has given him the privilege to serve.

In remarks, the Security Advisor to the President Mr. Jefferson Karmo says it's a privilege to join his colleagues in participating in the ceremony held in honor of the departing officers.

Mr. Karmo thanked Col. Sudue and the leadership of the LNP for this great exercise, saying the realization [commissioning] of the first batch of officers to a peacekeeping mission is very heartwarming.

He describes them as

pioneers of an endeavor in ensuring that from their effort, history will beacon to a glorious tomorrow for the men and women in the force.

Mr. Karmo concludes that he expects nothing from the officers but their best and quality output from the training they obtained and their experiences from the Liberia National Police.

UN Chief Security Advisor to Liberia Senyo Kufe cautions that when you go on peacekeeping, you go to learn and work with professionals from other countries and bring that experience back to your country.

He expresses happiness that LNP is going out there to work with other nationals, to see how they work, both from advanced and developing countries and bring that experience back home.

**Read the
NewDawn everyday
&
Advertise with us!**



Sherman **fires** at U.S. govt.



By E. J. Nathaniel Daygbor

Grand Cape Mount County Senator Cllr. Varney Sherman, currently on U.S. travel ban, has sharply fired at the United State Department of Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control, for what he terms, wrongly imposing economic and financial sanctions against him based

on allegations.

The United States government imposed multiple charges against the Liberian senator, ranging from bribery of multi judges with trial for a 2010 bribery scheme and an undisclosed conflict of interest with a judge, who ultimately returned a not guilty verdict in July 2019, runtime payment to judges to decide cases in favor

of his clients, and, the alleged facilitation of payments to Liberian politicians to support impeachment of a judge who has ruled against him.

Cllr. Sherman counters for the first time since the action was late 2020 that these allegations against him are false, baseless and that due process was never accorded to him.

He details that he started practicing law since February, 1980 and that no time during his days in court did he ever attempt to bribe a judge to favor his clients or to win a case, something, he terms as totally far from the realities.

According to him, from former Liberian Chief Justice Emmanuel Gbalazeh to Chea Cheapoo, to the James Nagbe, and the late Chief Johnnie Lewis' Supreme Court benches and the current bench of His Honor, Francis Kpokpor, he and his law firm, Sherman-Sherman Law firm had never bribed any judge or facilitated removal of a judge from the bench.

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 11

For as low as 60 USD, you can own one of these!

You also enjoy **1GB** free data every month for **6 months!**
Phone prices range between **60USD and above.**

Available at: **itel shop at Broad and Center Streets Intersection.**

price range
\$60 and above
PLUS
1GB data
Free every month for 6 months

Features:
- 3G or 4G
- Fullscreen
- Powerful Battery
- Quality front and back cameras
- Fingerprint/Face Unlock

Dial *187# to get 1GB free data after purchase.

everywhere you go
Ts & Cs apply.

Lonestar Cell MTN

Arsenal appoint new director of football operations

Arsenal have revealed that Richard Garlick will be taking on the role of director of football operations at Emirates Stadium, with the Gunners bringing in further assistance for Mikel Arteta and Edu.

Garlick, who is currently director of football at the Premier League, has previously spent time working at West Brom.

He will be stepping into a void created by Huss Fahmy's

departure from Arsenal in October 2020.

Contract talks will be an important part of Garlick's new role, with it his responsibility to ensure that the best possible talent is kept available to first-team coach Arteta.

Technical director Edu and academy manager Per Mertesacker also form part of the backroom team in north London.

"Richard Garlick is joining Arsenal as Director of Football Operations," read a statement



from the Premier League heavyweights.

"Richard, who is currently Director of Football at the Premier League and was previously Director of Football Administration at West Bromwich Albion, will join the club in the coming months.

"He will be a member of the Arsenal executive team and will be working closely with Technical Director Edu, Manager Mikel Arteta and Academy manager Per Mertesacker.

The NewDawn Press

2 colors Heidelberg printing machines

We Offer The Following Printing Services:

- Newspapers, Magazines
- Flyers, Posters, Calendars
- Brochures, Letterhead
- Receipts, Invoices
- Souvenirs, Gifts
- Designs, etc...