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VOL.11 NO. 112

WEDNESDAY, JULY 07, 2021

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PYJ bows to pressure



P11

Sen. Prince Yormie Johnson wearing a three star beret of the ruling GDC



P7

Weah shuns officials

-as garbage swarms Gobachop market

3G good



4G better

DATA DA LIFE

Dial *352#



everywhere you go



Continental News

Egypt angered over filling of Ethiopia's mega-dam

Egypt has accused Ethiopia of violating international law after it received a notice saying that Ethiopia's dam upstream on the Nile is now filling up with water for a second year.

The hydroelectric dam has long been a source of tension in the region.

Egypt, which relies almost entirely on the Nile for its water, sees it as a possible existential threat. Ethiopia says it is vital for its development.

Decade-long negotiations over the dam have failed to reach a final agreement.

Recent African Union efforts have stalled and now Egypt and Sudan, which also sits downstream of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (Gerd), have asked the UN Security Council to discuss the issue. They want firm commitments over the timetable of the filling as well as the volume of water the Gerd will release.

Egypt said it was informed by Ethiopia that the second

year of filling had begun. This has happened as the rainy season near the dam site gets under way.

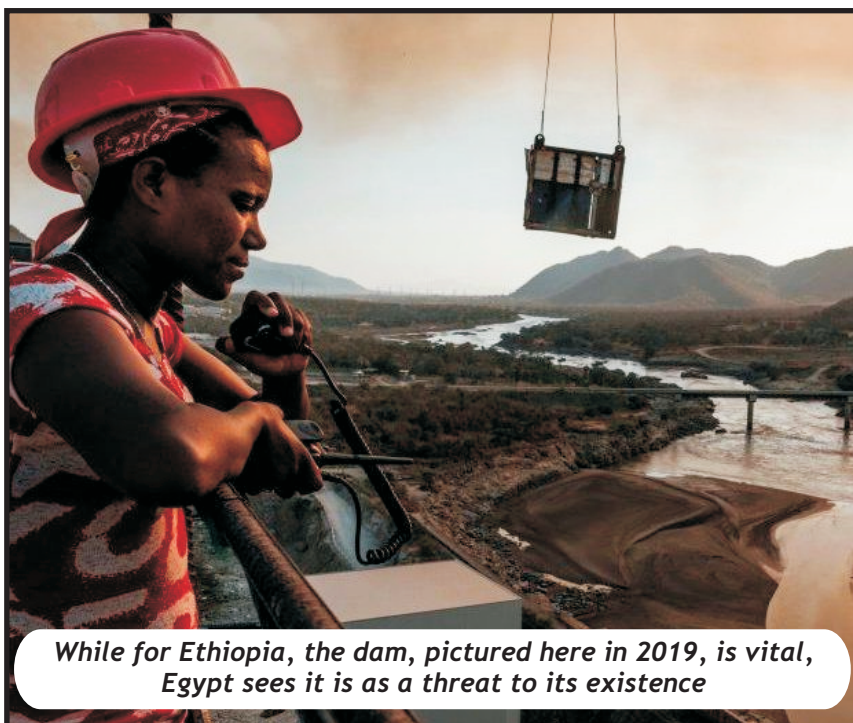
In response, Egypt's Irrigation Minister Mohammed Abdel Ati said he had sent a letter to his Ethiopian counterpart informing him of "Egypt's categorical rejection of this unilateral measure", a statement said.

He also said it violated a 2015

agreement which said that the development of the dam should be based on "mutual understanding".

Sudan also received the notification from Ethiopia, the Bloomberg news agency reports.

"They sent a nonsense letter," its chief negotiator on the dam, Mustafa Hussein, is quoted as saying.



While for Ethiopia, the dam, pictured here in 2019, is vital, Egypt sees it as a threat to its existence

The foreign ministers of both countries, who are in New York ahead of Thursday's Security Council meeting, called Ethiopia's "unilateral move... a serious escalation [revealing] Ethiopia's bad intention".

"The second filling also violates international laws and norms about the usage of resources of trans-boundary rivers," they added.

But Ethiopia says that it is not deliberately filling up the dam. "Filling goes in tandem with the construction," a senior Ethiopian water

ministry official told AFP news agency. Once fully operational, the Gerd is expected to supply 65 million Ethiopians with electricity. The authorities say it will transform people's lives and the country's development.

In a letter to the Security Council on Tuesday, Ethiopia's foreign ministry expressed its irritation about some of the diplomatic moves around the dam. It accused the Arab League, which appears to be backing Egypt and Sudan, of meddling. Ethiopia says that it is an issue for the African Union and not the Arab League. BBC

Nigerian state shuts schools over kidnappings

The authorities in the northern Nigerian state of Kaduna have ordered the immediate closure of schools in areas vulnerable to attacks.

This comes a day after gunmen abducted about 150 students from a secondary school in the state. In a separate incident a mother and baby were taken from a hospital.

Security forces are now

hunting the abductors to rescue the victims.

Kaduna state commissioner of education, Shehu Usman Muhammad, told the BBC that all schools located more than a 30-minute drive from a security outpost have been ordered to close until a new security arrangements are made.

It's not yet clear what the new measures will be as the government appears overwhelmed by the widespread

insecurity. In the past, several states in northern Nigeria closed their schools but that did not solve the kidnapping crisis.

The region has the lowest rate of school enrolment in Nigeria. Observers believe insecurity is now worsening the problem. Since December, more than 1,000 students have been abducted for ransom and nearly a dozen shot dead by criminal gangs.

The authorities are struggling to defeat the armed groups involved in the kidnappings. BBC



Nigeria's kidnapping crisis has worsened in recent months

Fire breaks out at Nigerian preacher's memorial



The influential Nigerian evangelist TB Joshua died last month

A fire broke out on Monday night in a storehouse in the church of the late influential Nigerian preacher TB Joshua in Lagos. The fire incident occurred during a candle-lit procession that was being held in tribute to the influential evangelist who died last month at 57.

Worshippers who had gathered in the Synagogue church for the service that was being led by TB Joshua's widow Evelyn Joshua scammed for safety. The church attributed the fire to a minor electrical fault. It said the fire had been put out and there were no casualties. TB Joshua will be buried at the church premises on Friday. BBC



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MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING



WEAR YOUR FACE-MASK



HOTLINE IN CASE OF EMERGENCY CALL 4455

EDITORIAL

Going from bad to worse

ALL IS NOT well in Liberia, as the daily confirmed cases of the corona virus among the population are nearly 200 and death keeps increasing. Funeral homes are overwhelmed by dead bodies, while caskets are in short supply.

ALREADY, LIBERIA HAS been placed at Level 4 by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the United States for being a country with very high COVID-19 confirmed cases. The country gradually seems to be at the brink of succumbing to the pandemic, if concerted effort is not taken immediately.

HEALTH AUTHORITIES IN the country keep assuring the public that they are up to the task, having announced protocol and preventive measures. However, the reality on the ground with fresh surging cases and deaths point to the contrary. It is a fact that soldiers fighting at the frontline would never give up until the last combatant dies but the people of Liberia don't want to be decapitated or led to the slaughterhouse.

WE BELIEVE STRONGLY that rapid testing is the surest way to reverse the current trend than to wait for infected patients to be taken to Star Base for oxygen that is scarcely available. Liberia cannot contain the resurgence of the coronavirus unless massive rapid testing campaign is launched across the entire country.

IN THIS FIGHT, we need all hands on deck, including experts that are not presently in government. This is not a fight for the Minister of Health Doctor Wilehmina S. Jallah and her staff at NPHIL or the Incident Management System. All Liberians should join the fight to defeat COVID-19.

IT IS IN this light that we welcome the US\$150,000 commitment from the Cummings Africa Foundation towards our health crisis, joining the Government of Liberia to reach out to hospitals and health centers particularly and the citizenry generally.

AS MR. ALEXANDER B. CUMMINGS, founder of the Foundation and leader of the opposition Alternative National Congress (ANC) said last week while announcing the gesture, Liberia is under serious threat right now, and unless we join hands to do our very best for one another, all of us will continue to be at risk, even if we hide ourselves in the homes.

BESIDES, THOSE LEADING the fight from the government side should move away from lip-service and demonstrate political will. We demand vigilance at the Roberts International Airport, seaports and land borders to curtailing the resurgence.

BY DOING SO, we will get ahead of the curve and erect relevant checkpoints that could halt the spread, particularly in the counties. The health system lacks capacity to respond to any overwhelming situation outside Montserrado County, when even the seat of government itself is seriously challenged.

LET THIS NOT be misconstrued that we are being pessimistic here. This is an honest attempt to present the grim reality so that all Liberians would wake up from their slumber, state of denial and face the danger ahead of us as a people. We need to wear our masks properly, observe social distance, wash our hands regularly and avoid mass gathering or crowded places, among others, to halt the spread.

The New Dawn
TRULY INDEPENDENT

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Monrovia-Liberia. Tel: +231-06484201, +231-77007529, +231-886978282 /
+231-775407211 Managing Editor: Othello B. Garblah; Editor-In-Chief: Jonathan

COMMENTARY

By Tian Johnson, Stephaun E. Wallace, Maaza Seyoum

Vaccine Hesitancy or Systemic Racism?

JOHANNESBURG/SEATTLE/ADDIS ABABA - When the United States began to roll out COVID-19 vaccines earlier this year, uptake in black communities lagged behind their white counterparts. Many assumed this was by choice: the history of medical abuses against them had supposedly left African-Americans mistrustful of the public-health intervention. A similar vaccine hesitancy has also purportedly hampered efforts to vaccinate African populations.

But this narrative amounts to little more than obfuscation.

To be sure, minority communities and developing-country populations may approach health services cautiously - and with good reason. From the gynecological experiments J. Marion Sims performed on enslaved black women in the 1800s to the four-decade-long Tuskegee Syphilis Study, in which infected black men were observed but not treated, there is no shortage of instances of medical abuse against African-Americans.

But, by blaming low COVID-19 vaccination rates on vaccine hesitancy, analysts and health-care providers are effectively using this history to victimize the same communities again. Decision-makers should not be permitted to evade responsibility for their failure to serve marginalized groups adequately by recalling the medical profession's past inhumanity. Instead, these horrific episodes should highlight the deep-rooted systemic racism that pervades health care today - and spur action to address it.

Make no mistake: racism in health care is not a thing of the past. In the US and elsewhere, ethnic and racial minorities have faced substantially higher risks of becoming infected with the new coronavirus or dying from COVID-19. Non-Hispanic blacks comprise 12% of the US population, but 34% of coronavirus deaths (in cities and states that reported deaths by race and ethnicity).

This clearly is not a choice. Rather, it reflects the barriers ethnic and racial minority communities face in accessing medical care and treatment, as well as inequities in other areas that affect health outcomes, such as education, wealth, workplace conditions, and housing.

The same barriers and inequities that made ethnic and racial minority communities more vulnerable are undermining vaccine uptake. Chicago's vaccine-rollout plan is a case in point. The city wanted to deliver doses through neighborhood pharmacies. But this would exclude the mostly non-white communities that live in "pharmacy deserts." Those same communities are also less likely to have reliable internet access, making it difficult for them to register for a dose.

Similarly, claims that Africans are simply refusing to get vaccinated ignore the affronts against them by rich countries. In fact, most Africans have not had the luxury of choosing

whether they want the vaccine, because rich countries have been hoarding doses.

Moreover, the vaccines Africans do have access to - largely those developed in China, Russia, and India - are often not approved in rich countries, and might be far less effective than, say, the mRNA vaccines produced by Pfizer and Moderna (which North Americans and Europeans have largely claimed). How can rich countries blame Africans for hesitating to accept vaccines they themselves have refused?

To add insult to injury, a handful of rich countries, led by the US, spent months blocking negotiations of an emergency waiver of World Trade Organization intellectual-property rules on COVID-19 treatments and vaccines, which would enable the rapid scaling up of production, in order to protect corporate interests. During the HIV/AIDS crisis of the 1990s and early 2000s, politics and profits similarly won out over the ethical imperative of ensuring affordable access to treatment, leading to hundreds of thousands of unnecessary deaths in the Global South, especially Africa.

US President Joe Biden's administration recently reversed its position, and is now backing the waiver. But, again, precious time and countless lives have been lost. If populations whose lives are being relentlessly devalued lack trust in the system, is it their fault, or is it the fault of those who are shaping that system?

Non-white communities want the COVID-19 vaccine. In March, a Morning Consult poll found that racial gaps in vaccine willingness in the US were narrowing. As Georges Benjamin, Executive Director of the American Public Health Association, admitted in April: "We overstated the hesitancy issue," and "understated the structural access issues."

The same goes for African populations. Last December, a survey conducted by the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC), in partnership with the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, indicated that 79% of Africans would take a COVID-19 vaccine if it were deemed safe and effective.

Ensuring that these groups get the vaccine is a job for their leaders. That means both dismantling barriers to access and working to earn the public's trust. The Africa CDC is setting an important example, meeting vulnerable communities where they are, listening to and acknowledging their expectations and anxieties, and nurturing greater engagement with the public-health system.

Privileged countries and communities will be tempted to continue to put their own needs first. They might even be tempted to continue to disregard the lives of vulnerable populations. But that temptation points to a pandemic without end.

OPINION

By Djoomart Otorbaev

After Afghanistan Falls

BISHKEK - On July 2, the US military handed control of the vast Bagram Air Base to the Afghan government. US troops and their NATO allies are now on track to leave Afghanistan by mid-July, well ahead of US President Joe Biden's September 11, 2021, withdrawal deadline.

According to a new analysis by researchers at Brown University, America's two-decade war in Afghanistan cost it nearly \$2.3 trillion. Now, Afghanistan's neighbors - Pakistan, Iran, China, India, and the Central Asian countries - are wondering just how much it will cost them to maintain security after the United States is gone.

In late June, the US intelligence community concluded that the Afghan government could collapse within six months of the US withdrawal - a stark downward revision of its earlier, more optimistic assessment. As the Taliban has swept through northern Afghanistan, capturing dozens of districts and major cities, Afghan security forces have often surrendered without a fight. According to a June report from the United Nations Afghanistan Sanctions Monitoring Team, the Taliban now exercises direct control over more than half of the country's regional administrative centers, and controls up to 70% of the territory outside urban areas.

The tremors from these Taliban victories are already being felt across the region. Fierce fighting has occurred a mere four hours from Tajikistan's capital, Dushanbe. On June 20, Taliban militants operating in northern Afghanistan surrounded government forces in Kunduz, the country's sixth-largest city (population 300,000). Then, on June 22, the Taliban captured the Afghan-Tajik border outpost of Sher Khan Bandar without a fight.

Meanwhile, Tajikistan's border service reported that 134 Afghan servicemen had received asylum at the crossing. Another 53 Afghan border troops and local militiamen retreated from a Taliban onslaught in Afghanistan's Shortepa district by crossing into Uzbekistan; and on July 5, more than 1,000 Afghan soldiers reportedly fled across the border from Badakhshan Province into Tajikistan.

A complete Taliban takeover of the Amu Darya and Panj Rivers dividing Afghanistan from Uzbekistan and Tajikistan will likely occur within weeks. Since this outcome would allow the Taliban to control Afghanistan's international borders along this front, the risk of large refugee flows from Afghanistan into Central Asia, and then on to Russia and Europe, has sharply increased.

After clandestinely supporting the Taliban as a means to undermine the US war effort, Russia now fears broader destabilization in Central Asia and beyond. In response to recent developments in Afghanistan, Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu says that, "By the end of this year, the command of the Central Military District will have to re-equip two aviation regiments with modernized Su-34M fighter-bombers and MiG-31BM fighter-interceptors." These reinforcements of Russian airpower in the region "will significantly increase the district's capabilities to engage the enemy with fire and combat cruise missiles in the Central Asian strategic direction."

Similarly, after having made nice with the Taliban, China also now fears the greater regional instability that the US withdrawal may incite. In addition to disrupting Chinese President Xi Jinping's Eurasia-spanning Belt and Road Initiative, a revitalized Taliban could re-energize the Islamist extremist threat in China's western Xinjiang province.

The prospect that Afghanistan will become a source of deepening poverty, mass migration, and instability is quickly becoming everyone's problem. But it is Central Asian governments that will be on the front lines. Still, many regional officials remain surprisingly optimistic. Following a recent visit to the US to discuss Afghanistan and regional security, the Uzbek foreign minister, Abdulaziz Kamilov, gave an extensive interview in which he argued that only Afghans, including the Taliban, can resolve Afghanistan's problems.

"We have some optimism," he explained, "Because the situation has changed. First, the two sides began direct contact for the first time in 40 years. The Taliban also want direct negotiations to reach a peaceful agreement." While stressing that he is no defender of the Taliban, Kamilov pointed to an official publication on the group's website where it claims to want to build an independent, sovereign Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan without any outside interference. In this new country, the rights of women, girls, and minorities would supposedly be guaranteed.

It is hard to believe that a seasoned diplomat like Kamilov would fall for such honeyed words. Yet, in also arguing that Afghanistan should be more deeply integrated into the Central Asian economy, he is on sound strategic footing. Even the Taliban would be attracted to the idea of a renewed "Greater Central Asia" that could recreate some of the economic dynamism of the glory years of the Great Silk Road (1100-1600 AD).

With China determined to deepen its trade, investment, and infrastructure ties across Eurasia, this vision has a chance of becoming reality. But first, peace must prevail, above all within Afghanistan.

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O-P-E-D

By Daron Acemoglu

The Real Inflation Risk

CAMBRIDGE - With the annual inflation rate in the United States reaching 5% in May, economists and investors are right to be apprehensive about deficit spending, public debt, and the risk of sustained price growth - which is higher now than it has been for almost four decades. But it would be a mistake to respond to these concerns by pumping the brakes on the economy.

No, the government cannot borrow and spend as much as it likes without paying any costs, as some progressives would have us believe. But nor can those worried about inflation ignore the deeper problem afflicting the US: deep political polarization, accompanied by an erosion of trust in government. A rapid economic recovery, spearheaded by public policies that encourage employment and wage growth, is the best chance the US has to restore trust in government - and in democracy. The real risk stemming from inflation is that it will distract us from this fundamental issue.

To be sure, there is no silver bullet against political dysfunction. Some commentators are understandably worried that the US has already reached a point of no return. After all, a majority of Republicans cling to the false belief that Donald Trump won the 2020 election, and by some estimates, 15% of the US population are adherents of the pro-Trump QAnon conspiracy theory. These figures point to a difficult road ahead. But we should remember that people tend to trust democracy more when it delivers on its promises of stability, shared prosperity, and effective measures to fight poverty.

For example, those who grow up in stable democracies where there is rapid economic growth and adequate public services are much more likely to oppose autocrats and unaccountable technocrats. By the same token, periods of economic stagnation and soaring inequality tend to fuel polarization and a loss of public trust, as has happened in the US and many other countries around the world in recent decades.

The US economy used to create good jobs - with decent pay, reasonable levels of security, and career-building opportunities - for workers from all kinds of backgrounds and with all kinds of skills. For 35 years after World War II, workers at both the bottom and the top of the income distribution benefited from robust employment growth and rapid wage increases. But this era came to an end in the 1980s, when median wages stagnated and inequality began to creep up. Rather than enjoying wage gains, men without a college degree started experiencing sharp declines in job options and real (inflation-adjusted) earnings.

The Americans who have been experiencing wage declines and dwindling opportunities are overrepresented among those moving to the extremist fringes of US politics. If you think the economy isn't working and cannot work for you, it is understandable that you might be sympathetic to opportunist politicians and media figures calling for a "rigged" system to be dismantled.

Of course, economic problems are not solely responsible for the sorry state of US politics. The Republican Party, too, has played an outsized role in the dysfunction. Starting with Richard Nixon's "Southern strategy" - which sought to capitalize on white backlash against the Democrats' 1960s civil-rights agenda - the GOP decided that polarization was good politics. The more the party has shifted to representing white, non-college-educated voters (a shrinking share of the population), the more it has had to rely on voter suppression and other anti-democratic tactics to maintain its position, a trend that has peaked with Trump.

But the Democratic Party is not blameless. The Wall Street bankers who caused the 2008 financial crisis were rescued not just by George W. Bush but also by Barack Obama. It was the Obama administration that ultimately decided to help the banks and the bankers at all costs, and which later chose not to prosecute any of the guilty parties. Voters' suspicions about a too-cozy relationship between government and finance were confirmed, accelerating the loss of trust in institutions and supplying plenty of ammunition to those already inclined to regard government as the problem, not the solution.

If this diagnosis is correct, the first step to reversing America's political dysfunction is to show that both the economy and the government can work for all. Generating jobs and wage growth for Americans of all backgrounds and skills should be a top priority. While we could focus simply on expanding the size of the overall economic pie and then redistributing it, that strategy is unlikely to leave voters feeling invested in the system. Enabling people to contribute meaningfully to the economy and society is a much better way to get them on board.

If infrastructure spending, expansionary fiscal and monetary policies, safety-net enhancements, job-generating investments, and other official measures are seen to be part of a robust recovery, that will further support the idea that government still works. Trust in state institutions cannot be restored simply by extolling their virtues in the abstract. Citizens must see and experience the benefits that come from institutions functioning effectively.

Can American democracy be rescued through a well-crafted economic recovery? There is no guarantee. The US economy has neglected workers without college degrees (and increasingly workers with college degrees, too) and catered to the needs of large corporations for so long that it may be too late to change course now. With corporate America funneling investment into technologies to automate jobs, surveil workers, and push down wages, the plight of the average American worker may continue to deepen.

It also might be too late to reverse the toxic polarization that has sundered American society. Most diehard Trump supporters have already shown that they will not change their minds under any circumstances.

All the same, getting the economy working again offers the best chance to rescue American democracy. The risk of a little higher inflation is no reason to squander the opportunity.

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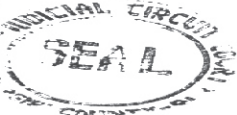
JUDICIAL BRANCH
REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA



REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA) IN THE 13th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT FOR MARGIBI
MARGIBI COUNTY) COUNTY SITTING IN ITS MAY TERM A.D. 2021.
BEFORE HIS HONOUR: KARBOLK NUTA, ASSIGNED CIRCUIT JUDGE
Mr. Anthony Robinson, Jr., of the City of Monrovia, Liberia... PLAINTIFF
Augustine Zayzay, Emmanuel Freeman and Sidiki Kpelleh and all others under the authority also of the City of Monrovia, Republic of Liberia... DEFENDANTS
ACTION OF EJECTMENT

AUTHORIZATION FOR PUBLICATION

TO: ALL LICENSED/REGISTERED NEWSPAPER(S) IN MONROVIA, MONTERRADO COUNTY, R.L.
SUBJECT: LEGAL PUBLICATION.
Date: June 25, 2021
From: Edward N. Boakai, CLERK OF COURT, 13th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, MARGIBI COUNTY, R.L.



GREETINGS:
UPON THE PAYMENT OF YOUR REQUIRED FEE, YOU ARE HEREBY AUTHORIZED/MANDATED TO PUBLISH THE WRIT OF SUMMONS, THE COMPLAINT AND THE AFFIDAVIT IN THE ABOVE CAPTIONED CAUSE OF ACTION/CASE, ONCE WEEK FOR FOUR (4) SUCCESSIVE WEEKS IN YOUR NEWSPAPER.
AND FOR SO DOING, THIS SHALL SERVE AS YOUR LEGAL AND SUFFICIENT AUTHORITY!
WITH kindest regards.
COUER'S SEAL

MARGIBI COUNTY) IN THE 13th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT FOR MARGIBI COUNTY, SITTING IN ITS MAY TERM, A.D. 2021.
BEFORE HER HONOUR: MARDEA TARR-CHENOWETH, RESIDENT CIRCUIT JUDGE
Mr. Anthony Robinson, Jr., of the City of Monrovia, Liberia... PLAINTIFF
Augustine Zayzay, Emmanuel Freeman and Sidiki Kelleh and all others under the authority also of the City of Monrovia, Republic of Liberia, Defendants
ACTION OF EJECTMENT

WRIT OF RE-SUMMONS
REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA, TO: CAPT. SAM T. MARSHALL, ACTING SHERIFF OF HIS DEPUTY FOR MARGIBI COUNTY, R.L.
GREETINGS:
YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED TO RE-SUMMONS AUGUSTINE ZAYZAY, EMMANUEL AND SIDIKI KELLEH AND ALL THOSE UNDER THE AUTHORITY ALSO, OF MONROVIA, R.L. TO APPEAR BEFORE THE 13th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT FOR MARGIBI COUNTY, R.L. SITTING IN ITS MAY TERM, A.D. 2021 TO MEET ON THE SECOND MONDAY IN MAY A.D. 2021 SAME BEING THE 10th DAY OF MAY A.D. 2021 AT THE HOUR OF 10:00 O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING TO ANSWER THE ABOVE NAMED PLAINTIFF HERETO ATTACHED.
YOU ARE FURTHER COMMANDED TO NOTIFY THE DEFENDANT'S HERE IN NAMED THAT THEY ARE TO FILE THEIR FORMAL ANSWER TO PLAINTIFF COMPLAINT IN MY OFFICE ON OR BEFORE THE 11th DAY OF APRIL A.D. 2021 AND THAT UPON THEIR FAILURE TO FILE THEIR ANSWER JUDGMENT WILL BE RENDERED AGAINST THEM BY DEFAULT.
MEANWHILE, YOU WILL RETURN THE ORIGINAL COPY OF THIS WRIT OF RE-SUMMONS TO MY OFFICE ON OR BEFORE THE SAID 11th DAY OF APRIL A.D. 2021 WITH YOUR OFFICIAL RETURNS ENDOSE ON THE BACK OF AS TO THE FORM AND MANNER OF SERVICE.
AND HAVE YOU THERE THIS WRIT OF RE-SUMMONS.
AND FOR SO DOING, THIS SHALL CONSTITUTE YOUR LEGAL AND SUFFICIENT AND HAVE YOU THERE THIS WRIT OF RE-SUMMONS.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF COURT THIS 21st DAY OF APRIL A.D. 2021.

EDWARD N. BOAKAI, CLERK, 13th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT, MARGIBI COUNTY, R.L.



COURT'S SEAL

\$5.00 REVENUE STAMPS AFFIXED

ENDORSED BY: [Signature]

REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA) IN THE OFFICE OF THE JUSTICE OF THE PEACE FOR MARGIBI COUNTY LIBERIA

Mr. Anthony Robinson, Jr., of the City of Monrovia, Liberia... PLAINTIFF
Versus
Augustine Zayzay, Emmanuel Freeman and Sidiki Kelleh and all others under the authority also City of Monrovia, Liberia... DEFENDANTS
ACTION OF EJECTMENT

AFFIDAVIT

PERSONALLY APPEARED BEFORE ME, The Undersigned, a duly qualified Justice of the Peace for Margibi County, at my Office in the City of Kakata, Margibi County, Republic of Liberia, Michael V. Suah, Counsellor-At-Law and one of Counsels for Plaintiff in the above entitled cause of Action and made OATH according to Law that all and singular the allegations as are set forth and contained in the annexed COMPLAINT are true and correct to the best of his knowledge, and as to those matters of other information, he verily believes them to be true and correct.

Respectfully submitted,
THE ABOVE NAMED PLAINTIFF
By and Thru his Counsel:
JONES & JONES
P. O. Box 10-1891, Randall Street,
Above Charif Pharmacy, Monrovia,
Liberia; Tel: (231) 0888728054

ATTORNEYS & COUNSELLOR-AT-LAW

Dated this 18th day of February A. D. 2021

[Signature]

REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA) IN THE 13th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, MARGIBI
MONTERRADO COUNTY) COUNTY SITTING IN ITS MAY TERM A. D. 2021
BEFORE HER HONOUR: MADEA CHENOWETH, RESIDENT CIRCUIT JUDGE

Mr. Anthony Robinson, Jr., of the City of Monrovia, Liberia... PLAINTIFF
Versus
Augustine Zayzay, Emmanuel Freeman and Sidiki Kelleh and all others under the authority also City of Monrovia, Liberia... DEFENDANTS
ACTION OF EJECTMENT

PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT

PLAINTIFF, in the above entitled cause of Action and complains the within named Defendants in manner and form as follows to wit:-

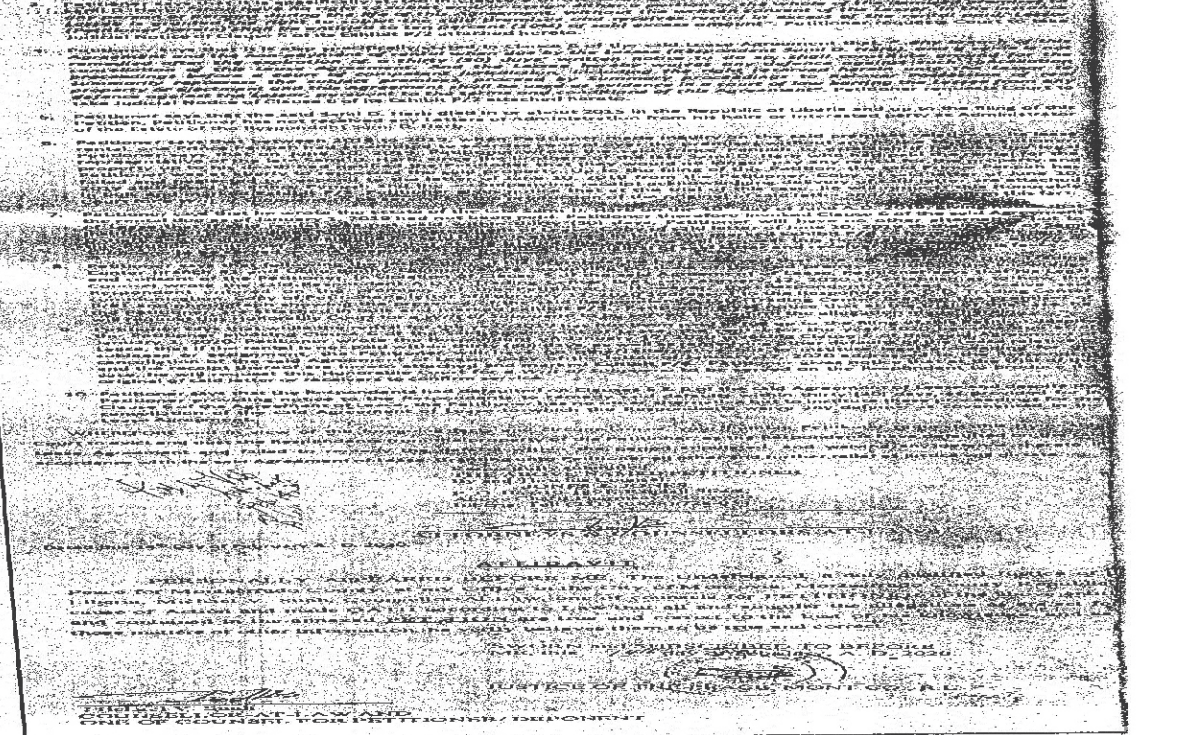
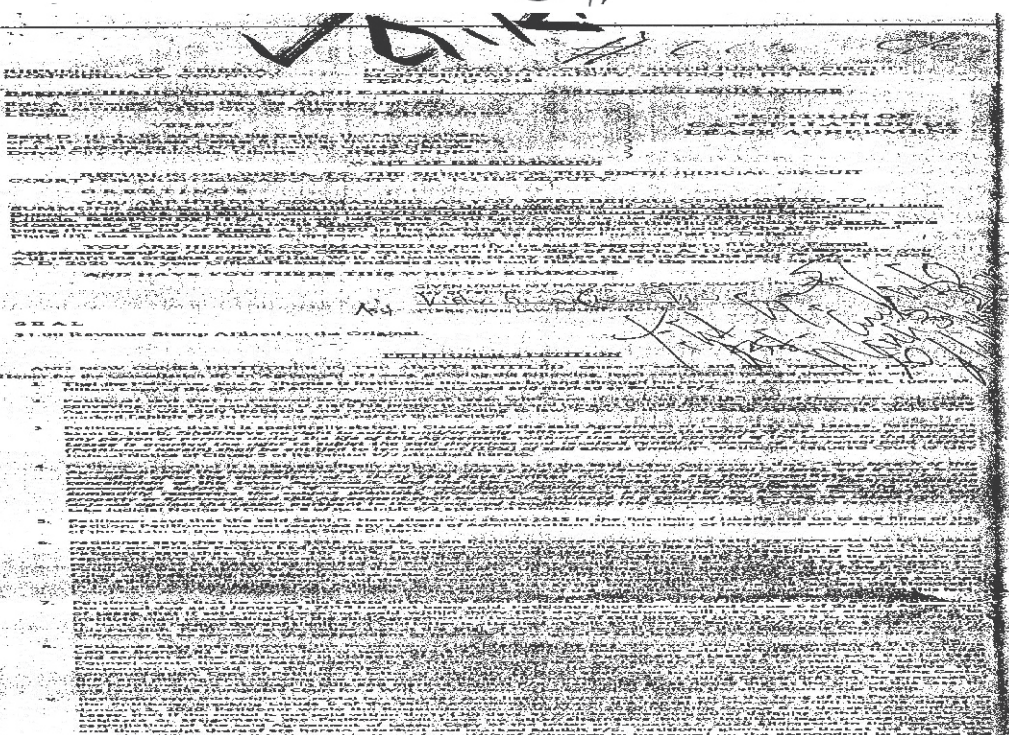
- 1. That Plaintiff is the bona fide owner of one (1) acre of land in fee simple, which Plaintiff acquired by honorable purchase from Whlemongar Garneo, Martha Kpowor, Samo Yarvorgar, William Smith, Emmanuel Kpaque, Samuel Lewis and Isaiah Lewis, Administrators of the Intestate Estate of the late James Carter, Isaac Lewis, Mary Wright, Emma Wright, Johnny Hilton, Archbelic Nuna and Gran Gayzeah Yarvorgar, on September 27, 2014, evidenced by an Administrator's Deed, duly probated on the 11th day of November A.D. 2015 and registered according to law in Volume 04-16, page 120-122. Copy of said Deed is hereto attached and marked as Exhibit P-1.
2. Plaintiff says that prior to the acquisition of the property, the Administrators obtained Letters of Administration and a Court Decree of Sale from the Monthly and Probate Court of Montserrado County, Temple of Justice which authorized the said Estate to sell the said property. Attached hereto and marked Exhibit P-2 is Court Decree of Sale issued to the Administrators to form a cogent and integral part of this proceeding.
3. Plaintiff says that sometimes during the first half of 2020, he observed strange persons on his property, acting without his knowledge and consent. Plaintiff was therefore constrained to file a Complaint before the Magisterial Court of Unification City, Margibi County, praying for a Writ of Mischief and Criminal Trespass against said persons. That based on the Plaintiff's Complaint the said persons were arrested and brought under the Jurisdiction of the Magisterial Court where they pleaded not guilty and claimed to have had a valid deed, claiming to have purchased the said property from Martha Kpowor, William Smith and Isaiah Lewis in 2018, son of the very persons who had already sold the property to Plaintiff. Based on this presentation, the issue of title came into place and the Magisterial Court for Unification City dismissed the said matter without prejudice for lack of jurisdiction. Copy of the Ruling of the Magisterial Court for Unification City of October 27, 2020 is hereto attached and marked as Exhibit P-3 to form a cogent part of this Complaint.
4. Plaintiff says that he having purchased the said property in 2014, the said property was no longer part of the Intestate Estate of the late James Carter, Isaac Lewis, Mary Wright, Emma Wright, Johnny Hilton, Archbelic Nuna and Gran Gayzeah Yarvorgar, for which the Estate could legally sell to the Defendants.
5. Plaintiff says that the Defendants entry on his property is illegally and without any color of right, and are constructing thereon. Plaintiff says that even though he has asked the Defendants to vacate the premises, they continue to willfully, wrongfully and illegally encroach and occupy the Plaintiff's property, subject of this Ejectment Action up to the date of the filing of this Action; all to Plaintiff's detriment and harm, causing damages, inconveniences and losses to the Plaintiff.
6. That based upon the averment contained in counts one (1) through count five (5) of this Complaint above, Plaintiff says that the occupancy by the Defendants on Plaintiff's property, subject of this Ejectment Action, is wrongful, illegal and unlawful. Plaintiff submits that Section 61.1 of the Civil Procedure Law captioned: "Any person who is rightfully entitled to the possession of real property may bring an action of ejectment against any person who wrongfully withholds possession thereof. Such an action may be brought when the title to real property as well as the right to possession thereof is disputed". Plaintiff therefore brings this Action of Ejectment, praying this Honourable Court to have the Defendants and all those acting under their instructions on the said property ousted, ejected and evicted from Plaintiff's premises and have Plaintiff repossessed of same.
7. Plaintiff further says that as a result of Defendants' wrongful and illegal entry on his property, Plaintiff has suffered great damages, losses and inconveniences; that is, to date, Defendants have deprived Plaintiff of the use and enjoyment of his property, by the Defendants' unlawful encroachment, occupancy and withholding of Plaintiff's land, resulting to serious financial losses to the Plaintiff, for which Plaintiff is claiming the amount of not less than US\$50,000.00 (Fifty Thousand United States Dollars), or amount to be determined by a Jury.

WHEREFORE, and in view of the foregoing, Plaintiff demands Judgment against the Defendants, their Principals and/or Agents and respectfully prays Your Honor to oust, evict and eject Defendants, its Principals and/or Agents from the Plaintiff's property; which the Defendants are currently encroaching upon and occupying, and award Plaintiff General Damages in an amount sufficient to compensate Plaintiff but not less than US\$50,000.00 (Fifty Thousand United States Dollars) for the wrongful and illegal entry, encroachment, occupancy and withholding of the Plaintiff's property by the Defendants. And to rule Defendants to pay all costs and expenses of these proceedings; and grant unto Plaintiff such other and further relief which this Court in its Judgment would deem just, legal and equitable.

SWORN and SUBSCRIBED TO BEFORE ME, this 18th day of February A. D. 2021

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE FOR MARGIBI COUNTY

MICHAEL V. SUAH, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW AND ONE OF COUNSELS FOR PLAINTIFF/DEPONENT



MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

I'll not be a loose talker

-Deputy Information Minister Tonpoe

Deputy Information Minister for Information Services, at the Ministry of Information, Culture and

director for press and public affairs of the Liberian Senate prior to his new portfolio, said on Monday that the role of the

He vows to be a forceful spokesman for the government when necessary, but not to loosely attack or to create bridges where there are no rivers.

Speaking during his appreciation ceremony on the grounds of the Capitol Building, on Monday, July 05, Mr. Tonpoe appealed for the support of everyone especially, the media community that he will work closely with and directly during his stay at the ministry, adding that the country deserves better information for an informed decision on national issues.

On June 24, barely 24 hours after the dismissal of Deputy Minister Eugene Fahngon, President George Weah nominated Mr. Jarlawah Tonpo to the post.

"Mr. Tonpo, named early Thursday, June 24, 2021, replaces former Deputy Minister Eugene Fahngon who was relieved of his duties on Wednesday night," an Executive Mansion statement said. The Senate's committee on Information and Broadcasting has since confirmed Mr. Tonpon.



Minister Jarlawah Tonpoe

Tourism (MICAT), Mr. Jarlawah Tonpoe says he will not talk loosely as a government spokesperson.

Tonpoe, who served as

deputy minister for Information Services is not be a loose talker instead, to provide the needed and accurate information to the Liberian people as it unfolds.

Weah sacks Bishop Klayee

The Executive Mansion in Monrovia says President George Manneh Weah has dismissed with immediate effect, the Managing Director of the Liberia Airport Authority (LAA), Bishop John Allen Klayee.

County, which led to mass entry of travelers from India, Bangladesh and Pakistan, three countries heavily infested with the Delta variant, a new strain of the deadly COVID-19.

Also under the leadership of Bishop Klayee, employees of the



Bishop John Allen Klayee

Bishop Klayee was relieved of his post early Tuesday, July 6, 2021 for administrative reasons.

The Executive Mansion further says Deputy Managing Director for Administration, Martin Hayes, will act as Managing Director of the LAA, pending the appointment of a new boss for the entity.

Bishop John Allen Klayee is Chief Executive Officer and General Overseer of the Jubilee Praise and Worship Center in Liberia with branches in Guinea and Sierra Leone.

His dismissal comes amid serious health protocol lapses at the Roberts International Airport (RIA) in Margibi

Liberia Airport Authority have been beset by unpaid salaries, greeted by consistent outcry from the workforce.

The Government of Liberia recently issued a travel restriction for travelers from all three countries, as part of measures to curtail spread of the virus.

Deputy Presidential Press Secretary Smith Toby says President Weah dismissal of Bishop Klayee signifies that the President is leaving no stone untouched in his quest to ensure accountability in government.

"The decision from the President is administrative, to let you know that the President will hold individuals responsible for administrative [lapses]."

West Point women end seminar on sexual violence

West Point Women for Health and Development Organization, a local group has concluded two days seminar on Sexual and Gender based Violence in the township.

The seminar brought together participants from both genders and focused on ending all forms of social norms, including domestic violence against women.

Speaking to reporters briefly after the close of the seminar in Monrovia, the group's Executive Director, Madam Nelly Cooper said, the exercise was geared at adequately informing participants about the important role each partner play in a relationship.

The forum was sponsored by the European Union through SPI, working with both genders in training them to put a complete end to all forms of sexual, gender and domestic violence.

"It is our hope that at the end of this training, participants will learn how to engage each other in a relation, where each partner will understand its role and at the same time help to end domestic violence, which is mostly perpetrated by men.



"We are doing all we can to enlighten the minds of the males that females are not slaves in a relationship, but partners who need all the necessary support to make them the women they ought to be", she said.

Madam Cooper disclosed that participants were excited and willingly shared their individual experiences, while promising to practicalize the knowledge acquired for the betterment of their lives.

She said though majority of the participants blamed the increase wave of violence in the

country to men's inability to exercise restraint in relationships, but with the knowledge gained, male counterparts admitted to the reality of sometimes committing the act either knowingly or unknowingly.

Also speaking, participants thanked Madam Cooper and her team for organizing the event and promised to use the knowledge acquired for positive change.

Most of the participants spoken to after the training said, the exercise has helped

Announcement

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them realize various mistakes in their individual lives and they are now willing to learn from them in order to become better partners in relationship.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Weah shuns officials

By Lewis S. Teh

It was a very disturbing and embarrassing situation on Monday, July 5, 2021 at the Gobachop market in Paynesville Red Light outside Monrovia when President George Weah's official convoy passed through without stopping to greet his officials, who had gathered hours earlier, waiting his arrival to inspect progress made on the new Omega market.

Scores of government officials including Acting Public Works Minister Ruth Collins, Monrovia City Mayor Jefferson Kojjee, and the leadership of the Paynesville City Corporation, among others along with scores of reporters had converged at the Gobachop market as early as 8:00 a.m. to assess work on the market project and remove heap of garbage by the city corporations.

But after inspection of the

deduce that not much work was done in removing garbage in the market, for which the President did not stop.

"We all saw what happened during Ellen time, before Ellen came here, people who have cleaned up this entire place and this is exactly what we expected the mayor and his entourage to have done before inviting President Weah to come", they said.

Some marketers accused authorities of the Liberia Marketing Association for collecting garbage fees from them, but failing to identify a place to dump the garbage, something they said, contributed to the garbage forming mountains.

"This attitude on the part LMA is embarrassing, because people no longer buy our market because of the dirt, and yet we're still paying fees to them."

Prior to the Presidential convoy driving thru without

we did in Waterside, we will [provide] solar lights which will provide security to you marketers", says Mayor Kojjee.

He underscores that authorities of the Liberia Marketing Association should take full charge of the opportunity being provided by the government under the leadership of President Weah, adding that there's a need to work together and see the process as a common duty.

"Those of the marketers that will agree and relocate to the newly constructed market will be a good decision, but if you refused to relocate and continue selling in Red Light Gobachop, you're putting yourself at risk because you will lose lot of things. This isn't about politics, it's about the well-being and safety of our people", Kojjee explains.

"Our presence here shouldn't be misconstrued by PCC despite the mayor's absence today doesn't mean she's not working; we're a government therefore, we are there to complement each other, this is not about who's effective or ineffective. Wherever there is challenge, we move in and offer assistance."

He calls on community dwellers, LMA officials and marketers to work together and designate a place for the MCC to build where they will deposit their trash, saying we will not condone coming into Red Light Gobachop market to clean dirt, and that four nights spent at Gobachop market in removing garbage was costly.

The mayor, who is from the ruling Coalition, warns that marketers and business owners that do not wear facemask in public risk fine or imprisonment.

Last Friday, July 2, the mayor announced that the city government under his leadership was taking heavy duty trucks and trailers on a rescue mission to clean up the Gobachop market in Paynesville and other areas.

But from all indications, President Weah wanted the stockpile of garbage off, but that was never done so his action on Monday clearly sent a signal that a lot more needs to be done by Kojjee in terms of ridding Montserrado County that hosts the nation's capital and its environs of dirt particularly, amid the health pandemic. -Editing by Jonathan Browne



market by the Acting Public Works Minister and staff of the city corporations of Monrovia and Paynesville, news that President Weah was expected to visit marketers at the Gobachop market was short-lived, as the President drove thru without making a stop, ignoring the presence of his officials apparently due to the mountains of garbage that have engulfed the market ground.

Officials were left in limbo as the Presidential convoy coming from town speed away, something, that left officials in shame and speechless, not able to say a word to members of the press why President Weah couldn't stop to greet them, including jubilant marketers, who had waited for several hours.

The embarrassing situation left marketers to

making a stop, Acting Public Works Minister Ruth Collins during a tour at the newly constructed market in Omega community, Red Light told reporters that the visit was intended to assess the project and see the readiness of the structure for quick relocation of marketers.

"We're here today to monitor this project and how soon our people can move in; this we think will create easy access to market women bringing their produce from other counties", Minister Collins explains.

Monrovia City Mayor Jefferson T. Kojjee says the essence for their gathering was to embark on a mission to clean up Paynesville City that has been engulfed in huge filth.

"It is about time that we try to reorganize Red Light like what

US warship headed

Starts from back page

Ziankahn said there exists a state - to - state partnership between Liberia and Michigan, recalling that when he went there about four years ago, he negotiated with the Adjutant General for the Michigan National Guard [Maj. Gen. Gregory Vadnais] for Liberian troops to go to Michigan.

He recalled that the request was reiterated when he took President George Manneh Weah to Michigan in 2018, and Gen. Vadnais agreed for Liberian soldiers to be sent there to take part in the preparation exercises that include air, land and marine components.

According to an online publication done by the Michigan National Guard in early August 2015, Ziankahn, then AFL Chief of Staff, spent three days in Michigan in early August, touring the Camp Grayling Joint Maneuver Training Center with Michigan's top general, Maj. Gen. Vadnais, and other senior leaders of the Michigan National Guard.

The publication indicated that since 2009, Michigan and Liberia have been partners under the U.S. National Guard's State Partnership Program, and added that the August visit to Camp Grayling by Ziankahn was the first time a chief of staff of the Armed Forces of Liberia had been to Michigan.

Commenting on his recent trip with President Weah to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Paris, France, Minister Ziankahn said they met with the Crown Prince of

UAE and some issues were discussed.

From that meeting with the UAE authorities, Minister Ziankahn said eight brand new armoured personnel carriers (APCs) were sent to Liberia, noting that just one unit of the APCs costs about US\$350,000.00.

According to Minister Ziankahn, APC is used to transport troops into battle or into an operation and each has a capacity to carry about 11 persons.

He noted that AFL is now conducting border patrol in the southeast of Liberia, emphasizing that the patrol is intended to ensure that the place is safe and to assure the citizenry.

In Paris, France, Minister Ziankahn said he was given the chance to make the case for the AFL and it was noted and the French authorities agreed to help AFL with some equipment and to share intelligence with the Liberian side in the Sahel Region where both France and Liberia have peacekeepers.

The Defense Minister assured that "we should expect to see a better army" for Liberia, but he also appealed for more of the citizens' support in addition to their moral support to the army.

Ziankahn said he thinks other stakeholders need to look in the direction of the AFL to see how best they can try to improve their living standards. He noted that he wants the army to be respected as a force that the citizens can run to when there is a problem, and not an institution that citizens can run away from.

JUDICIAL BRANCH REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA. 3RD DAY JURY SESSION JUNE TERM, A.D. 2021 JUNE 23, 2021 00007364. BEFORE HIS HONORABLE... YAMIE QUI QUI GBEISAY... ASSIGNED CIRCUIT JUDGE PRESIDING. THE PETITION OF KPANNAH MAMA KPEHE PETITIONER, BY AND THRU HER LEGAL COUNSEL... PRAYING THIS HONORABLE COURT FOR A DECREE OF CHANGE OF NAME TO BE CHANGED, REGARDED, CALLED AND KNOWN AS "KPANNAH PRECIOUS KPEHE". COURT'S DECREE OF CHANGE OF NAME. The Petitioner filed a Petition requesting this Honorable Court to order the Change of her name from KPANNAH MAMA KPEHE TO "KPANNAH PRECIOUS KPEHE". After conducting the necessary interrogations requested by law in these proceedings, the Court observed that the intention is just and legal and that there is no objection to the change of her name proposed by she is therefore it is adjusted as follows: That the Petitioner having shown with justification and satisfaction that she was born on this 17th Day of DECEMBER, A.D., 1988, in the City of Monrovia, Montserrado County, unto the union of Mr. Martin Kawala Kpehe and Mrs. Janet Foyah Kpehe, and that the Change of her name will substantially promote her interest in all of the understandings and help to establish her just identity more firmly, and being satisfied that she has met all legal requirements for the Change of her name in this jurisdiction, it is therefore DECREED as follows: That the petition having been heard, same is hereby ordered granted and we now render that the name KPANNAH MAMA KPEHE be changed to "KPANNAH PRECIOUS KPEHE", beginning this 23rd Day of June, A.D. 2021. THIS DECREE shall be registered in the Office of the Registrar of DEEDS and other Official Documentations within (10) days from this date and also be published twice in any recognized Newspaper operating in the Republic of Liberia within twenty (20) days from this date. AND IT IS HEREBY SO ORDERED. GIVEN UNDER MY HAND IN OPEN COURT, THIS 23rd DAY OF JUNE, A.D. 2021. COURT SEAL: YAMIE QUI QUI GBEISAY ASSIGNED CIRCUIT JUDGE PRESIDING SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, CIVIL LAW COURT. REGISTERED ACCORDING TO LAW REVISION NO. 06-021 PAGE(S) 00007364. REGISTRAR, NATIONAL ARCHIVES CENTER/MONT. CO, R.L. Five (\$5.00) Revenue Stamp Affixed on the Original. June 2021 1:00 30

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Français

Le Sénat annule brutalement les audiences de confirmation du patron de la CBL

L'audience de confirmation du conseil des gouverneurs et du gouverneur exécutif de la Banque centrale du Libéria (CBL) a été brutalement annulée lundi 5 juillet 2021 alors des centaines de personnes dont des sénateurs, des journalistes, des personnes ordinaires et des responsables de la Banque Centrale avaient convergé au sénat où l'audience était prévue.

Des sénateurs et des responsables de la Banque centrale du Libéria s'étaient réunis dans la nouvelle annexe du Capitole, à la consternation des journalistes.

Après plusieurs heures d'attente véritablement vaine, les médias ont été informés de manière informelle par le sénateur du comté de Maryland et coprésident du comité sénatorial sur les banques et les devises de ce que le président du comité, le sénateur Marshall Dennis du

comté de Grand Gedeh, ne se partait bien et que par conséquent l'audience a été reportée au mercredi 07 juillet.

M. Aloysius Tarlue, Gouverneur exécutif de la CBL, a récemment été reconduit dans ses fonctions par le président George Weah, à la fin du mandat de 5 ans de son prédécesseur, l'ancien gouverneur exécutif Nathaniel Patray qui avait remplacé l'ancien gouverneur exécutif Milton Weeks.

Les experts financiers et les économistes se demandent si M. Tarlue a tenu les promesses qu'il avait faites lors de son audience de confirmation précédente devant le Sénat libérien le 07 décembre 2019.

« Ma vision, en tant que gouverneur, sera de rétablir la confiance dans la CBL et le secteur bancaire, dans son

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



« Nous n'avons aucun intérêt à nous diviser. Il faut que nous luttons ensemble », le chef de l'opposition

« Pour lutter contre ce virus, nous ne pouvons pas être divisés. Comme nous l'avons fait pendant Ebola, nous devons nous battre ensemble, unis comme un seul homme », a déclaré récemment M. Alexander B Cummings.

Il a tenu ces propos à peine deux semaines après avoir proposé d'aider le gouvernement dans la lutte contre le coronavirus qui fait rage ici. La Fondation Afrique de M. Cummings, qui a promis 150 000 USD comme

contribution initiale à la lutte contre le covid-19, a rappelé à ses concitoyens que, comme l'épidémie d'EBOLA en 2014, chaque libérien doit lutter contre la COVID-19.

« Je sais que depuis des décennies nous nous sommes divisés à cause de soit la politique, soit les différences ethniques, soit la religion ou le genre. Nous continuons à nous traiter avec méfiance et défiance. Ce n'est pas seulement un combat pour nos médecins et nos travailleurs de la santé. C'est un combat pour nous tous -

enseignants, étudiants, commerçants, activistes, chefs communautaires, chefs religieux, chefs traditionnels, chefs d'entreprise, syndicats, chauffeurs, valeurs mobilières, motocyclistes et politiciens. C'est un combat pour le secteur privé et le secteur public. Nous devons tous nous impliquer. Notre pays a besoin que nous fassions tous notre part », a-t-il déclaré.

Selon lui, comme le virus Ebola, le covid-19 n'est pas seulement une menace pour certains Libériens, ni pour d'autres. Au leader politique du Congrès national alternatif de prévenir que la nation est confrontée à un risque de santé réel.

"Aucun ne sera totalement à l'abri de ce virus tant que nous ne le serons pas tous. Et donc, vieux ou jeune ; parti au pouvoir ou de l'opposition ; Musulmans, chrétiens et personnes de toutes confessions ; instruits ou non instruits ; à travers chaque ville et village ; dans chaque comté ; s'il vous plaît, mes compatriotes libériens, je vous demande de vous impliquer. Faites votre part pour vous protéger et

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Éditorial

COVID-19 : nous allons visiblement de mal en pis ?

Tout va mal au Libéria, car chaque jour plus de 200 nouveaux cas sont enregistrés au niveau de la population et les décès ne cessent d'augmenter.

Les morgues privées sont submergées de cadavres, tandis que les cercueils se font rares. Déjà, le Centre américain de contrôle des maladies et de Prévention a vu à la hausse le niveau d'alerte, en le situant à 4, le niveau le plus élevé. Le pays risque de succomber progressivement à la pandémie, si des efforts concertés ne sont pas entrepris immédiatement.

Les autorités sanitaires du pays continuent de faire croire au public qu'elles sont à la hauteur de la tâche, après avoir annoncé des mesures préventives. Cependant, la réalité sur le terrain montre le contraire, vu que de nouveaux cas et les décès se comptent par des centaines. Il est vrai que les combattants n'abandonneront jamais jusqu'à la mort du dernier combattant, mais le peuple libérien ne veut pas être décapité ou conduit à l'abattoir.

Nous croyons fermement que les tests rapides sont le moyen le plus sûr pour inverser la tendance actuelle, ce n'est pas le fait d'attendre que les patients infectés soient emmenés à Star Base pour de l'oxygène qui est à peine disponible. Le Libéria ne peut contenir la résurgence du coronavirus à moins qu'une campagne massive de tests rapides ne soit lancée dans tout le pays.

Dans ce combat, nous avons besoin de toutes les forces, y compris les experts qui ne font pas actuellement partie du gouvernement. Le combat n'appartient pas qu'à la ministre de la Santé, le docteur Wilehmina S. Jallah, et son équipe ou au système de gestion des incidents. Tous les Libériens doivent se joindre au combat pour vaincre le COVID-19.

C'est dans cette optique que nous nous félicitons de l'engagement de 150 000 USD de la Fondation Cummings Africa envers notre crise sanitaire, rejoignant le gouvernement du Libéria pour atteindre les hôpitaux et les centres de santé en particulier et les citoyens en général.

Comme M. Alexander B. Cummings, fondateur de la Fondation et leader politique de l'Alternative National Congress (ANC) l'a déclaré la semaine dernière lors de l'annonce de ce geste, le Libéria est actuellement gravement menacé. Si nous ne nous unissons pas les mains pour faire de notre mieux pour les uns les autres, nous continuerons tous à être en danger, même si nous nous cachons dans les maisons.

En outre, ceux qui mènent le combat du côté du gouvernement devraient faire preuve de volonté politique. Nous exigeons la vigilance à l'aéroport international Roberts, aux ports maritimes et aux frontières terrestres pour limiter la résurgence.

Ce faisant, il faut que nous érigeons des points de contrôle pertinents qui pourraient stopper la propagation, en particulier dans les comtés. Le système de santé n'a pas la capacité de répondre à toute situation accablante en dehors du comté de Montserrado, alors que même le siège du gouvernement lui-même est sérieusement remis en question.

Qu'on ne se méprenne pas sur le fait que nous sommes ici pessimistes. Il s'agit d'une tentative honnête de présenter la sombre réalité afin que tous les Libériens se réveillent de leur sommeil, de leur état de déni et fassent face au danger qui nous attend en tant que peuple. Nous devons porter nos masques correctement, respecter la distance sociale, nous laver les mains régulièrement et éviter les rassemblements de masse ou les endroits surpeuplés, entre autres, pour arrêter la propagation.

Français

Le Sénat annule brutalement

ensemble, au cours des cinq prochaines années. Cela se fera par le biais de réformes visant à améliorer la gouvernance, à garantir la solidité technique des politiques et à assurer la viabilité financière de la CBL et surtout à veiller à ce que la CBL se concentre sur la mise en œuvre des politiques monétaires visant à maintenir l'inflation à un niveau bas, à stabiliser le taux de change, ainsi que de s'assurer que le Libéria dispose suffisamment de réserves de change », avait promis M. Tarlue à l'époque. Il avait en outre promis de promouvoir l'indépendance de la Banque centrale, de veiller à la réforme de la loi portant création de la Banque.

Il avait également promis de renforcer les fonctions d'audit et de contrôle internes, entre autres avec l'approbation du conseil des gouverneurs.

En ce qui concerne la garantie de la solidité technique des politiques,

« Nous n'avons aucun intérêt à nous diviser.

protéger votre famille. Faites votre part pour protéger vos amis, vos voisins, vos collègues et vos concitoyens », a-t-il déclaré.

Selon Cummings, faire sa part c'est simplement porter un masque pour se couvrir le nez et la bouche, pas seulement la bouche mais aussi le nez, se laver les mains à l'eau et au savon plusieurs fois par jour, arrêter de serrer les mains et de se serrer dans les bras, ne pas être se rendre dans des endroits bondés ou surpeuplés, faire son test COVID si on présente des symptômes tels que le rhume, la toux, la fièvre et les maux de tête et se faire vacciner.

Le leader de l'ANC a ajouté qu'à la Fondation Cummings Africa, on veut procéder à une approche triple : premièrement, apporter un

Tarlue avait dit aux législateurs et aux Libériens qu'il renforcerait le département de recherche de la Banque centrale afin que les décisions politiques fussent éclairées par une analyse et des preuves appropriées.

« Nous veillerons à ce que la CBL se concentre sur la mise en œuvre des politiques monétaires visant à maintenir l'inflation à un niveau bas, à stabiliser le taux de change et à faire en sorte que le Libéria dispose de suffisamment de réserves de change. Nous allons promouvoir la solidité du secteur bancaire en renforçant les fonctions de supervision de la CBL - Actuellement, les prêts non productifs dans les banques sont bien au-dessus du seuil de 10 % », avait-t-il ajouté. Pour parvenir à la viabilité financière de la CBL, il s'était également engagé à entreprendre un examen stratégique et fonctionnel des opérations de la Banque.

La CBL subit actuellement des pertes opérationnelles dues à diverses inefficacités, notamment une main-d'œuvre pléthorique, que son budget ne peut pas supporter.

soutien à un certain nombre d'hôpitaux publics et privés ; deuxièmement, travailler avec les dirigeants communautaires, les organisations de la société civile et les médias pour accroître la sensibilisation du public et les messages, en particulier autour de la prévention ; et troisièmement, aider le gouvernement dans sa lutte contre le virus.

« Nous essayons cependant d'aider le gouvernement à réussir dans cet effort. Et donc, en travaillant avec une équipe d'experts plus large, nous informerons régulièrement le gouvernement de ce que nous faisons et recommanderons, le cas échéant, des mesures supplémentaires à prendre pour lutter sérieusement contre le virus, arrêter la propagation et mettre fin à l'infection dans le pays », a-t-il ajouté.

COMMENTAIRE

Par Tian Johnson, Stephaun E. Wallace, Maaza Seyoum

Hésitation face au vaccin, ou racisme systémique ?

JOHANNESBURG/SEATTLE/ADDIS-ABEBA - Lorsque les États-Unis ont commencé à déployer les vaccins contre la COVID-19 cette année, leur adoption par les communautés noires a pris du retard par rapport à celles des communautés blanches. On a cru d'abord qu'il s'agissait d'un choix : les antécédents d'abus médicaux à leur encontre avaient soi-disant laissé les Afro-Américains méfiants vis-à-vis des interventions de santé publique. Une hésitation similaire à l'égard des vaccins aurait également entravé les efforts visant à vacciner les populations africaines.

Mais ce récit dépasse les simples faux-fuyants.

Les communautés minoritaires et les populations des pays en développement ont des raisons légitimes d'approcher les services de santé avec quelques réserves - et à juste titre. Depuis les expériences gynécologiques de J. Marion Sims réalisées sur des femmes noires asservies dans les années 1800, jusqu'à l'Étude de Tuskegee sur la syphilis durant quatre décennies, dans laquelle des hommes noirs infectés ont été observés mais non traités, les cas d'abus médicaux à l'encontre des Afro-Américains ne manquent pas.

Mais en rejetant la faute des faibles taux de vaccination contre la COVID-19 sur l'hésitation face au vaccin, les analystes et les professionnels de santé utilisent efficacement cette histoire pour persécuter une fois encore les mêmes communautés. Nous ne devons pas laisser les décideurs échapper à la responsabilité de leur incapacité à servir adéquatement les groupes marginalisés : nous devons au contraire rappeler l'inhumanité passée de la profession médicale. En ce sens, il faut que ces épisodes horribles mettent en lumière le racisme systémique profondément enraciné qui envahit de nos jours les services de santé - pour nous inciter à agir dans le but d'y remédier.

Mais ici, prenons garde à ne pas nous tromper : le racisme dans les soins de santé n'appartient pas au passé. Aux États-Unis comme ailleurs, les minorités ethniques et raciales sont confrontées à des risques considérablement plus élevés d'être infectées par le nouveau coronavirus ou de mourir de la COVID-19. Les Noirs non hispaniques représentent 12 % de la population américaine, mais 34 % des décès par coronavirus (dans les villes et les États qui ont signalé des décès par race et par origine ethnique).

Cela n'a manifestement rien d'un choix. Ce phénomène reflète plutôt les obstacles auxquels les communautés ethniques et raciales sont confrontées en matière d'accès aux soins et aux traitements médicaux, ainsi que les inégalités dans d'autres domaines qui influent sur les résultats en matière de santé, comme l'éducation, la richesse, les conditions de travail et le logement.

Les mêmes obstacles et inégalités qui ont rendu les communautés ethniques et raciales minoritaires plus vulnérables nuisent à l'adoption des vaccins. Le plan de déploiement des vaccins par la ville de Chicago est un cas d'école. La ville a choisi de distribuer les doses par le réseau des pharmacies de quartier. Mais un tel choix pratique a fini par exclure les communautés majoritairement non blanches qui vivent dans des « déserts pharmaceutiques ». Ces mêmes communautés ont également moins de chances de bénéficier d'un accès fiable à Internet, ce qui leur complique la tâche au moment de s'inscrire pour une dose.

De même, les affirmations selon lesquelles les Africains refusent tout simplement de se faire

vacciner ignorent les affronts que ceux-ci essuient de la part des pays riches. En fait, la plupart des Africains n'ont pas eu le luxe de choisir s'ils souhaitaient ou non se faire vacciner, parce que les pays riches ont accumulé des doses en grandes quantités.

En outre, les vaccins auxquels les Africains ont accès - en grande partie ceux développés en Chine, en Russie et en Inde - ne sont souvent pas approuvés dans les pays riches et risquent de se révéler bien moins efficaces que, par exemple, les vaccins à ARNm produits par Pfizer et Moderna (que les Nord-Américains et les Européens ont largement cherché à se procurer). Comment les pays riches peuvent-ils accuser les Africains d'avoir hésité à accepter les vaccins qu'ils leur ont eux-mêmes refusés ?

Pour couronner le tout, une poignée de pays riches, dirigés par les États-Unis, ont passé des mois à bloquer les négociations sur une renonciation d'urgence aux règles de propriété intellectuelle de l'Organisation mondiale du commerce sur les traitements et vaccins contre la COVID-19, qui aurait pu permettre une intensification rapide de la production, afin de protéger les intérêts des entreprises. Pendant la crise du VIH/SIDA des années 1990 et du début des années 2000, la politique et les bénéfices l'ont également emporté sur l'impératif éthique d'assurer un accès abordable aux traitements, conduisant ainsi à des centaines de milliers de morts inutiles dans la moitié Sud de la planète, en particulier en Afrique.

L'administration du président américain Joe Biden a récemment changé de position et soutient aujourd'hui cette renonciation. Mais une fois encore, un temps précieux et d'innombrables vies ont été perdues. Est-ce de leur faute si des populations dont la vie est sans cesse dévalorisée n'ont aucune confiance dans le système, ou est-ce la faute de ceux qui façonnent ce système ?

Les communautés non blanches veulent le vaccin contre la COVID-19. En mars, un sondage du Morning Consult a révélé que les écarts entre les races dans la volonté de vaccination aux États-Unis se réduisaient. Comme l'a admis en avril Georges Benjamin, directeur exécutif de l'American Public Health Association : « Nous avons exagéré la question de l'hésitation » et « sous-estimé les questions d'accès structurel ».

Il en va de même pour les populations africaines. En décembre dernier, une enquête menée par les Centres africains pour le contrôle et la prévention des maladies (Africa CDC), en partenariat avec la London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, a indiqué que 79 % des Africains choisiraient de prendre un vaccin contre la COVID-19 s'il était jugé sûr et efficace.

Il appartient aux dirigeants de ces groupes de s'assurer que ces derniers bénéficient du vaccin. Cela signifie à la fois supprimer les obstacles à leur accès et s'employer à gagner la confiance du public. Africa CDC est en train de montrer l'exemple, en rencontrant les communautés vulnérables sur le terrain, en écoutant et en reconnaissant leurs attentes et leurs inquiétudes et en veillant au meilleur épanouissement des relations au sein du système de santé publique.

Les pays et les communautés privilégiés seront tentés de continuer à placer leurs propres besoins au premier rang. Ils peuvent même être tentés de continuer à négliger la vie des populations vulnérables. Mais cette tentation nous orienterait dans ce cas vers une pandémie sans fin.

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Liberia's COVID-19 Trajectory: Experts' Advice on How to Halt the Outbreak

Fighting the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic: Employing lessons from the Ebola Virus Disease response. This is a summary of a full paper with recommendations that will be presented to the Government of Liberia.

By: Sara BeysolowNyanti, MPA; Tolbert Nyenswah, LLB, MPH; Dougbeh Chris Nyan, MD; and Mardia Stone, MD, MPH

Since the COVID-19 outbreak was declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) by the World Health Organization (WHO), there are over 183 million COVID-19 confirmed cases, and a staggering 4 million deaths worldwide. To date, this global COVID-19 death toll almost totals the entire population of Liberia.

The Global North (a specific reference to countries in Europe and North America) is making progress in vaccinating its populations, while the Global South (countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and Oceania, often referred to as 'least developed' or 'developing') is disproportionately affected. With more fragile health systems, sub-Saharan Africa will very likely become home to the next COVID-19 hotspots.

In Liberia it is presumed that the situation is not as bad as it is in some other countries. Unfortunately, this perception may be misleading. In a little over a year (March 2020 to April 2021), Liberia recorded 2099 confirmed cases, with 85 confirmed deaths. However, in May to June 2021 alone, Liberia recorded 2205 cases and 44 confirmed deaths (NPHIL daily situation reports). The cases and deaths in 2 months are more than what we experienced in over a year.

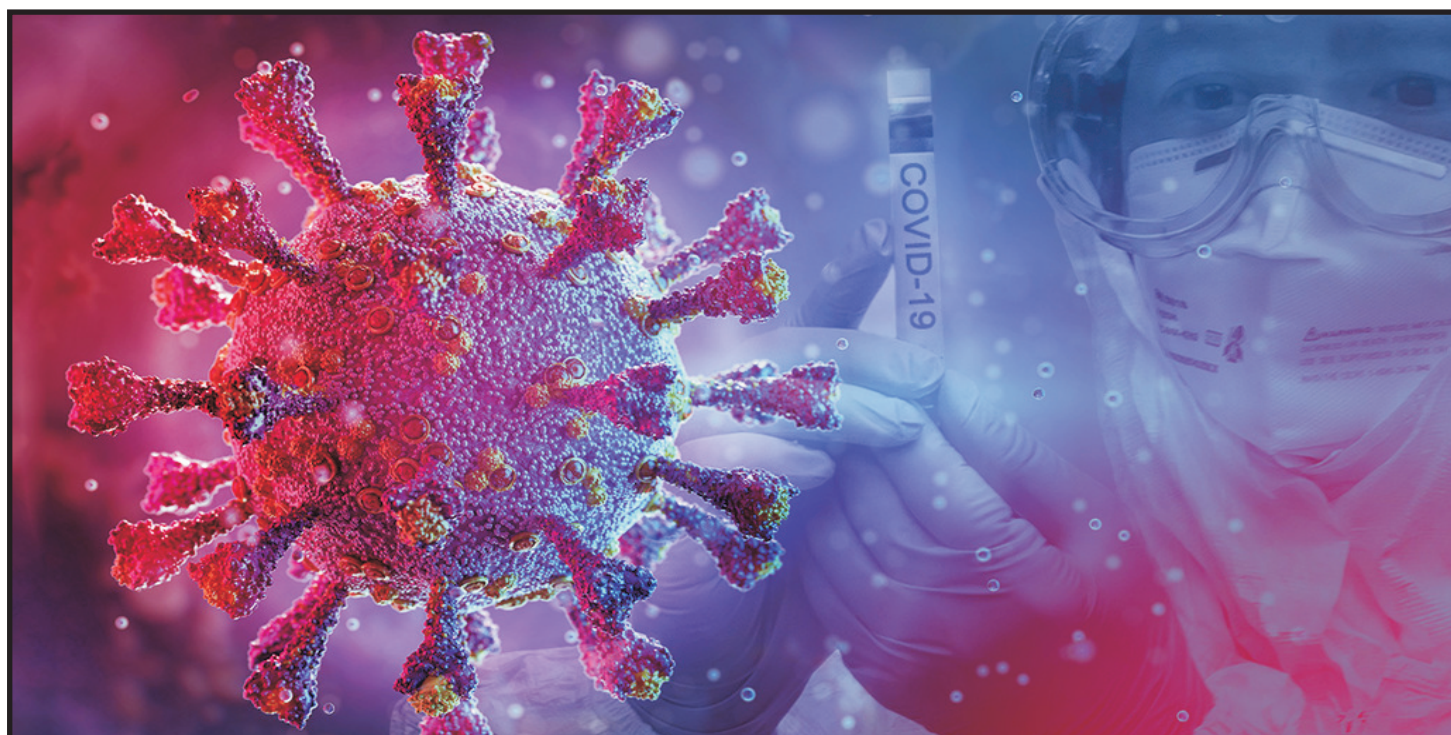
The identification of COVID-19 cases has primarily been conducted using reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR), commonly referred to as "PCR." Availability of testing has been very minimal across the country. Even where testing has been conducted, the results are alarming. Test positivity rates are now at a record high in Liberia at over 20 to 25% (NPHIL/MOH) from May to June 2021. Moreover, a test positivity rate above 5% to 10%, is deemed as an outbreak that is out of control (WHO).

Voluntary testing has not been a service that Liberians have enjoyed like others around the world. Testing for the most part has been largely for travel at cost. However, voluntary testing for COVID-19 is now being offered to those who are

symptomatic and require clinical confirmation. Unfortunately, even when tests are conducted, those who get tested sometimes do not receive their test results, have no follow up, and their contacts are not traced.

Beyond testing, countries that have been successful in managing COVID-19 disseminate socially and culturally appropriate public health awareness messages and ensure engagement with communities. They actively trace those who have been exposed to the virus and follow available scientific data and

(18,921 health workers and 66,211 others) have received the first dose of the vaccine, according to the Ministry of Health. In addition, 6,439 people have received the second dose of the vaccines. However, this has largely been in Montserrado country. What of the other 14 counties? We do not have sufficient vaccines for the population, and even with what Liberia has received, management of the vaccines has not been optimal. Countries around the world are now procuring vaccines and are not relying on donations. Liberia needs to vaccinate at least 3.5 million people. Donations will never be enough for the entire country. Countries procuring now are expecting vaccines in quarters 1 and 2 of 2022. When will Liberia enter this global procurement cue?



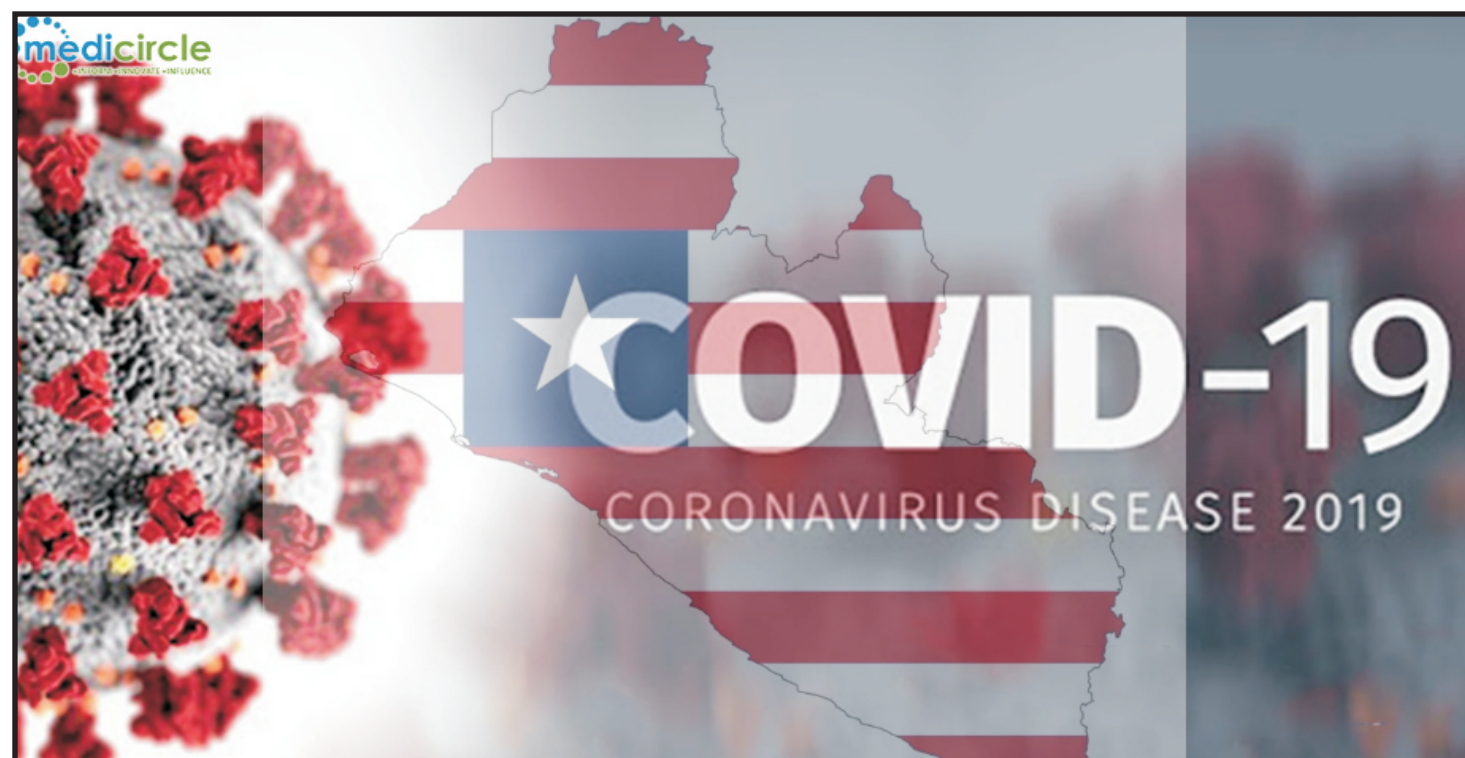
experiences of other public health emergencies. Cross-border movements of populations are controlled, as well as crowds and gatherings in public spaces (schools included),

Vaccination campaigns are an important strategy implemented during an epidemic. However, vaccination is one of the major challenges with COVID-19. Around 77% of COVID vaccines being produced have already been bought by only 10 countries in the Global North (WHO). So where does Liberia stand with vaccines? Liberia has only relied on donations of vaccines from COVAX which has allocated 384,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine. Of this allocation, 96,000 doses were received in March 2021. So far, 85,132 people

There is no substitute for political leadership and strategic management in any outbreak response. The 2014-2016 Ebola outbreak in Liberia, Guinea, Sierra Leone and Nigeria taught that very well. Liberia has been down this road before and has gained the knowledge and skills to manage epidemics. By establishing the National Public Health Institute of Liberia (NPHIL) and the emergency operation centers in all 15 counties, as well as training field epidemiologists for community-based events surveillance, the government resolved to build a more resilient health system, capable of responding to public health emergencies such as COVID-19. That system plus the over 2,000 personnel trained in various aspects of public health during and after the 2014 Ebola epidemic should be mobilized.

In the recent weeks of the COVID third wave in Liberia, scores of Liberians have died from what has been probably inaccurately diagnosed as malaria, typhoid, kidney failure and stomach ulcers, due to the lack of differential diagnostic capabilities in infectious diseases. Most are dying without ever being tested. Where testing is conducted, results are very rarely available on time. Anecdotal evidence suggests that waiting time for voluntary testing for COVID-19 is over 1-2 weeks in many instances. Some do not get results until after they have recovered. Nationwide testing, timely results and contact tracing are non-negotiables for dealing with COVID-19; and the private sector is needed.

Worst of all, misconception, misinformation, and incorrect information continue to pervade the



PYJ bows to pressure

By E. J. Nathaniel Daygbor

Nimba County Senator Prince Yormie Johnson, dubbed as a notorious Liberian warlord, finally quits his post as chairman of the senate committee on Defense and Intelligence, over a month after the United States government opposed his appointment to the committee.

On May 19, the United States government through its embassy in Monrovia strongly condemned the election of Senator Johnson, leader of the defunct rebels Independent National Patriotic Front of Liberia as Chairman of the Senate

Manneh Weah, ahead of 2023.

“I wish to profoundly thank you distinguished colleagues; from the bottom of my heart for your tremendous support over the years; I have had the opportunity to serve the great people of Nimba County. You have elected me on many occasions to represent this august body at the ECOWAS parliament where I was privileged to serve the post of deputy speaker at the regional parliament and in this Senate as chairman on National Security, Intelligence, Security and Veteran Affairs on white ballots,” the Senator’s communication continues.

According to him, over the

PYJ notes that Liberia’s traditional partners for more than two centuries, including the United States have resolved not to support the committee as long as he chairs, pointing out that Liberia is bigger than any one man.

“The army which is my alma mater needs support at this critical time of the nation’s recovery, and I will never want to stand in the way of support to the army in particular and Liberia in general. In the same vein, I equally cannot afford to put the Liberian Senate at odds with the United States of America. We respect the U.S. and will do everything to work



Committee on Defense and Intelligence.

“Senator Johnson’s gross human rights violations during Liberia’s civil wars are well-documented; his continued efforts to protect himself from accountability, enrich his own coffers and sow division are also well known,” a statement issued in Monrovia on May 19, 2021 by the U.S. Embassy here read.

The United States noted that the Liberian Senate would see fit to elevate the former rebel leader to a leadership role - particularly in the area in which he has done Liberia the most harm – creates doubts as to the seriousness of the Senate as a steward of Liberia’s defense and security.

However, Senator Johnson in a communication addressed to Senate President Pro-Tempore Albert Chie and Plenary dated June 05, says his resignation follows series of consultations with chiefs, elders, youth groups and permanent individuals.

According to him, high profile individuals convinced him to step aside and focus on his own reelection bid and that of President George

past weeks, his residence, both here and in Nimba County have been inundated by high profile visits paid him by chiefs, elders of Nimba and other stakeholders from a broad spectrum of his kinsmen who have twice elected him to represent them in the Liberian Legislature, adding that they have never questioned his suitability and capacity to continue serving them, for which his gratitude to them is immeasurable.

“After giving much pondering to the matter and in consultation with my family, I have decided to honor their request. I therefore resign my post as chairman [for] the committee on National Defense, Intelligence, Security and Veteran Affairs of the Liberian Senate effective today.”

with [them] in ways that will improve relations and foster national development”, the INPFL leader explains.

Meanwhile, a motion from Maryland County Senate J. Gble- bo Brown was made Tuesday, July 06, 2021 that the letter of resignation be accepted by Plenary, which was overwhelmingly voted for.

Meanwhile, Senate President Pro-Tempore Chie has appointed Lofa County Senator Steve Zargo, who had recused himself for PYJ to get elected as chair of the defense and intelligence committee, to act, pending election for a new chair. -

Editing by Jonathan Browne

Liberia's COVID-19

Cont'd from page 10

population. Average Liberians still doubt the existence of COVID-19 or its presence in the country. Unlike Ebola, COVID-19 positive patients can be asymptomatic. This is an unfamiliar perspective in a country with high illiteracy and poverty rates.

With all of the issues raised herein taken into consideration, we advise the following in summary:

1. Demonstrate strong political and technical leadership going forward. A whole-of-government and whole-of-country approach is necessary, down to the household level.
2. The Minister of Health of Liberia officially should declare a "National Public Health Emergency" in keeping with Title 33, Chapter 14 of the Liberia code of Laws Revised, known as: The Public Health Law of Liberia.
3. The President should restructure and ensure a more efficient Incident Management System (IMS) by appointing a non-political and professional Incident Manager who will be directly accountable to him.
4. Mobilize all human and institutional resources and structures used for the Ebola response; as well as allocating the financial resources required - create the fiscal space.
5. Ensure adequate risk communication and community engagement that focuses on the uniqueness of COVID-19, such as asymptomatic presentation, as well as vaccine hesitancy.
6. Liberian leaders should lead by example: implement public health measures/ practices, regarding testing, vaccinations, social distancing, mask wearing to boost public confidence and suffer consequences when they do not lead by example.
7. Ensure that health care and other frontline workers are paid well and on time, given appropriate incentives and provided personal protective gears to facilitate their work.
8. Commission experts to develop Liberia’s COVID-19 test kits and scientific research for vaccine production.
9. Forge public-private partnerships for a whole-of-country approach including leveraging private clinics and hospitals to scale up testing and care services across the country.
10. Partner with the United Nations System, bilateral as well as multilateral development banks (MDBs) and International Financing Institutions (IFIs), to leverage multilateral financing options for procurement (especially of vaccines, oxygen plants etc.), technical assistance and administrative advice, setting up field hospitals and mobile clinics.
11. Develop a testing plan that involves scaling up rapid testing at private clinics as well as developing a dynamic database for contact-tracing.
12. Establish alternate care sites (ACS) for management of COVID critical cases in all 15 counties, building on the Ebola experience.
13. Establish at least two additional sub-reference laboratories in the Northeastern and Southeastern part of the country to augment the functions of the National Reference Laboratory.
14. Population management - ensure a comprehensive review of population movement and put in place mechanisms to manage spreader occurrences, including an analysis of risks to students, teachers, marketeers, shoppers etc.
15. Focus on land border entry points and ensure testing, contact tracing and follow-up at those points and establish health desks, using rapid testing at all points of entry.

About the authors:

Sara BeysolowNyanti is a Liberian who was a key figure in the Ebola Virus Disease outbreak response in Nigeria. She was Leader of the Management and Coordination team of the Incident Management System. She is currently leading an international response to COVID in a global hotspot of the Delta variant.

Tolbert Nyenswah is Liberia’s first Incident Manager for the Ebola Virus Disease outbreak in Liberia and led the Incident Management System in Liberia. He is one of the architects and founding member of the National Public Health Institute of Liberia.

Dr. Dougbeh Chris Nyan is an expert in infectious disease research. He is the inventor of the US-patented rapid multiplex pathogens diagnostic test (the Nyan-Test). Dr. Nyan testified before the US Congress on the Ebola epidemic in West Africa and served as member of the Data Safety Monitoring Board of the PREVAIL Ebola vaccine trials.

Dr. Mardia Stoneplayed a critical role in Liberia’s National Ebola Response serving as Senior and Technical Advisor, to the Incident Manager and Liberia’s Deputy Minister of Health for Disease Surveillance and Epidemic Response. She later served as Advisor to the Director General, NPHIL.

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US warship headed for AFL exercise



have been more than 100 plus attacks on ships and other vessels sailing the route.

“So we will be very, very lucky to have the warship here to conduct some training exercises,” he said.

Minister Ziankahn said the warship will soon be seen on Liberian waters, cautioning the public not to be surprised if they see it here. The former Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces of Liberia explained that a warship is used in battles, loaded with military helicopters.

Additionally, Minister Ziankahn disclosed that the AFL will soon have a ‘platoon-minus’ going to Michigan, the United States of America, to partake in a readiness exercise which is being done by the Michigan National Guard.

He said for the first time, this exercise will be taking place from the end of July to August this year, and “we will be having a warship too, coming here.”

By **Winston W. Parley**

Liberia’s Defense Minister Maj. Gen. Daniel D. Ziankahn, (Rtd), says a warship is expected here anytime soon from the Michigan National Guard for an exercise by the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL), amidst pirate attacks on ships and other vessels sailing the Gulf of Guinea route that begins from

southeastern Liberia to Garbon.

“I have talked with my counterparts, so they will be coming to conduct some training exercises with ... our Coast Guard. So the warship will be coming,” Minister Ziankahn said Tuesday, 6 July during a live talk show on Prime FM in Monrovia.

According to Ziankahn, piracy has shifted from the Horn of Africa to the Gulf of Guinea, noting that this year alone, there

▶ **CONT'D ON PAGE 7**



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PSG sign Hakimi from Inter on five-year deal

Paris Saint-Germain announced on Tuesday they had signed Morocco wing-back Achraf Hakimi from Inter Milan on a five-year deal.

According to reports the Parisians have paid around 60 millions euros (\$71 million) for the 22-year-old who won Serie A with Inter last season.

Hakimi started his career with Real Madrid before joining Borussia Dortmund for a season and then heading to the San Siro.

“I feel a great sense of

pride today,” Hakimi said in a PSG statement.

“After Spain, Germany and Italy, Paris Saint-Germain offers me the chance to discover a new championship with one of the most prestigious clubs in the world,” he added.

The nine-time French champions are also reportedly interested in Hakimi’s former Real Madrid team-mate Sergio Ramos as well as AC Milan’s Italy goalkeeper Gianluigi Donnarumma but have already signed Netherlands midfielder Georginio Wijnaldum.



Despite 2011’s multi-million takeover by Qatar Sports Investment and signing Brazil’s Neymar for a world record fee they have failed to win the Champions League.

“This calibre of signing shows the level of our ambitions - we continue to build something very special,” PSG’s chief executive officer Nasser Al-Khelaifi said.

“Achraf may only be 22 years old and has already established himself as one of the most talented full-backs in world football - these are the standards we set at the club.”

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