
Liberia: Sen. Grupee Opposes War Crime Court

By Presley Nya Boozahn

Nimba County Senator Thomas Grupee has sharply opposed to the implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) report and the setting up of a War Crime Court in Liberia.

In an interview with a local radio station in Ganta, Senator Grupee noted that the establishment of War Crimes Court in Liberia will only open old wounds that citizens are gradually forgetting about and have been peacefully living with for the past ten years.

According to the lawmaker, the TRC reports have been lingering for a very long period of time and President Ellen Johnson, whom according to him, should have been banned from taking part in politics in Liberia for ten years has served for two terms.

"Why the TRC recommendations should be implemented now when President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf will be leaving power comes 2017," he asked. He further said the implementation of the TRC report at this time is wrong and unnecessary noting that no one has even sued any war lord to the International Court.

"I oppose the TRC report implementation at this time, especially so the recommendation to set up war crime court in Liberia. The fact we have celebrated our ten years of peaceful co-existence and we continue to enjoy peace and tranquility in Liberia while gradually we are forgotten, you know the ugliness of the civil war." Senator Grupee said.

"To come back and open a war crime tribunal where people will have to be subjected to explanation, witnesses be called and so forth, I think it will just renew the wounds that are gradually been healed. So the timing to me is wrong," he added.

"The TRC reports have been lingering around for a very long time. These recommendations were there; Mrs. Sirleaf came to power and was given these recommendations to be implemented. While now when she has already served her two terms?" The Nimba Lawmaker questioned..

"I don't think for us as a people, we should subscribe to a prosecution and war crime court be established in Liberia," he added. Recently, Montserrado County Senator Geraldine Doe-Sherriff openly embraced the implementation of all the TRC's recommendations

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