

Official Program for Workshop

On
“Role of the Military in Post-Conflict Reconstruction of Liberia”

Sponsored By

Liberian History, Education & Development, Inc. (LIHEDE)



Date & Time

March 29, 2005 from 11:00 A.M. until 5:05 P.M.

Facilitators

Dr. Syrulwa Somah
Executive Director, Liberian History, Education & Development, Inc.

&

Lt. Jonah Kessel Tarley
US Army Reserve/Member, Liberian History, Education & Development, Inc.

Theme:

Mapping Out Appropriate Strategies for the Restructuring of the Armed Forces of Liberia

Workshop (Tuesday, March 29, 2005)
(YMCA Hall, Crown Hill, Monrovia)

Part I
(Breakfast)

10:45 -11:00 — Registration of Participants and Guests

Part II

11:00 — Official Opening of Workshop—Ms. Henrietta White-Holder, Member, LIHEDE, Inc.

11:06-11:10 —Invocation— Father, Dr. Robert G. Tikpor of the Catholic Diocese of Monrovia, Liberia

11:10 —Welcome Remarks:

1) 11:15 — Monrovia City Mayor Ophelia Hoff-Saytumah

11:20—Introduction & Overview of Workshop/Recognition of Workshop Participants—Dr. Syrulwa S. Somah, Executive Director, LIHEDE, Inc.

Part III

(Presentation & Discussion of Workshop Topics -- Facilitators & Audience)

11:30 -5:05— Discussion Theme: No More Guns to Settle Disputes

11:30 —**Topic 1:** An Overview of Violence in the Liberian Society: Dr. Somah & Lt. Tarley, US Army/LIHEDE, Inc.

12:15—**Topic 2:** A Review of Military Coups in Africa Causes and Consequences: Dr. Somah & Lt. Tarley

12:50—**Topic 3:** Integration and Restructuring of the Armed Forces of Liberia: Dr. Somah & Lt. Tarley

2:05—**Lunch Break** (YMCA Break Room)

3:05-5:05— Discussion Theme: National Security and Public Safety

3:05— **Topic 4:** Demobilization and Reintegration of the Armed Fashions of the Civil Wars into the Liberians Society: Dr. Somah & Lt. Tarley

3:50— **Topic 5:** Reorganizing Security Apparatuses to Promote the Common Good: Dr. Somah & Lt. Tarley

4:50—**Discussion/Question & Answer Period Facilitator:** Dr. Somah & Lt. Tarley

5:05—**End of Workshop**

About the Presenter and Facilitator

Presenter

Lt. Jonah Kessel Tarley, Liberian History, Education & Development, Inc. the main presenter of the workshop is an accomplished administrator and a soldier with seventeen years of diverse military training experience. He earned his BS Nursing from Pace University, York, New York. Lt. Tarley also obtained a BS Biology/Business Medgar Evers College, City University of New York, New York. He is a seasoned professional with extensive supervisory responsibilities which include: creating, developing and executing strategic training plan, personnel training, cost reduction, project management, and improving the value of organizations. He currently works at the US Department of Veteran Affairs as a patient staff and provides services to US Military Veterans. He is a US ARMY Commissioned Officer assigned to the US Army Ready Reserved/Control Group. He is 77TH ARCOM Budget Analyst and manages the budget of 150,000 troops, North East, USA. He is also 77th ARCOM HHC, Training Officer and schedules training of military personnel, North East, USA; S-1 800 MP Brigade. Also as the principal staff officer for all matters concerning human resources, he is an OER Officer of the 343rd Combat Support Hospital as well as officer in Charge of Army Officer Evaluation Reporting. He spent seven years as US ARMY Non-Commissioned Officer as a Battery Training Specialist, C-Co, 1-29 Field Artillery, and responsible for the training and combat readiness of about 150 soldiers, Special Weapon Specialist, NCOIC, and 1-29 Field Artillery. His award includes: Four Army Commendation Medals, Three Army Achievement Medals.

Facilitator

Syrulwa Somah, Ph.D., is an Associate Tenured Professor of Environmental and Occupational Safety and Health at NC A&T State University in Greensboro, North Carolina. He obtained his Associate of Arts degree from LaGuardia Community College in Long Island City, New York. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Science and Occupational Safety and Health from Empire College, State University in New York. He also holds two master's degrees: Master of Science in General Health Administration from Central Michigan University in Mt. Pleasant and a Master of Science in Liberal Studies from the University of Oklahoma at Norman. He obtained is doctorate in Policy Studies in Environmental and Occupational Health from The Union Institute and University in Cincinnati, Ohio. Dr. Somah is author of several books, including, *The Historical Resettlement of Liberia and Its Environmental Impact*, *Christianity, Colonization and State of African Spirituality*, and *Nyanyan Gohn-Manan: History, Migration & Government of the Bassa* (a book about traditional Bassa leadership and cultural norms published in 2003). Somah is also the Chairman of the Board of Directors, Sunday Project and Executive Director of the Liberian History, Education & Development, Inc. (LIHEDE), a nonprofit organization based in Greensboro, North Carolina. He has worked in a broad range of professional positions: serving in the David Dinkins administration as Senior Occupational Compliance Specialist, New York City Mayor's Office of Citywide Occupational Safety and Health; Assistant Director of Environmental Health Services, College of Optometry, State University of New York (SUNY) and Senior Environmental Compliance Specialist, City of Greensboro, North Carolina.

