

# FOIA Marker

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Folder Title:

618176

#618176

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United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

JUN 17 2004

0097

Closed  
Addressed  
to sec  
Powell

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This is in response to your April 2 letter to President Bush regarding your continuing concern that former Liberian president Charles Taylor has not been transferred to the Special Court for Sierra Leone.

The Administration and the Congress share a common goal of seeing Taylor held accountable. Mr. Taylor should appear before the Special Court and we note, in this regard, that the Special Court recently dismissed his challenge to its jurisdiction. Taylor should not escape justice because of the expiration of the Special Court's mandate. We are looking for appropriate ways to see that this does not occur.

The United States is in frequent contact with Nigeria on the issue of Charles Taylor. We have made clear to President Obasanjo, President Kufuor, and others that our mutual goal must be for Charles Taylor to be answerable to the charges and answerable to the Special Court for Sierra Leone.

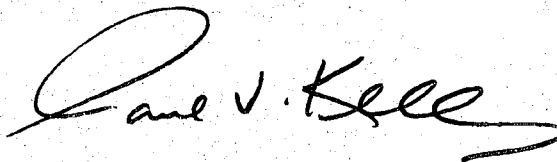
We are pursuing a variety of programs with the National Transitional Government of Liberia and the UN Mission in Liberia to close down Taylor's ability to influence events in Liberia. Based on our conversations with Chairman Bryant, we are convinced that the National Transitional Government of Liberia shares our concern over Taylor. Chairman Bryant has expressed his willingness to work with us to find an appropriate strategy to resolving this problem. We understand that he also made that point during your June 8 meeting.

The Honorable  
Frank R. Wolf, Chairman,  
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, the Judiciary,  
and Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations,  
House of Representatives.

#2004 0525-013

We hope information is helpful. We share your interest in this issue, and will continue to follow it closely. Please do not hesitate to contact us again on this or any other matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul V. Kelly". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "P" and a long, sweeping underline.

Paul V. Kelly  
Assistant Secretary  
Legislative Affairs

Department of State  
Congressional Correspondence Unit  
Bureau of Legislative Affairs (H)

**FAX**



TO: Brooke - White House Corresp.

FROM: **Cynthia Andrews, Chief,  
Congressional Correspondence Unit,  
Legislative Affairs**

JUN 17 2004

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**Message:**

Reply to WH ID# 618176

- If you should have any questions please contact Cynthia Andrews 647-1882, Amanda Harris 647-1883, or Roxanne Reed 647-2163. Thank you.

# THE WHITE HOUSE DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT AND TRACKING WORKSHEET

**DATE RECEIVED:** 4/27/2004

**CASE ID:** 618176

**NAME OF CORRESPONDENT:** THE HONORABLE FRANK WOLF

C0097

**SUBJECT:** WRITES TO SHARE WITH THE PRESIDENT A LETTER THAT HE AND 28 MEMBERS OF CONGRESS SENT TO SECRETARY OF STATE COLIN POWELL ASKING THAT THE U.S. ACT SWIFTLY TO ENSURE THAT THE FORMER PRESIDENT OF LIBERIA CHARLES TAYLOR BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR HIS HEINOUS CRIMES AND BROUGHT BEFORE THE SPECIAL COURT FOR SIERRA LEONE

ROUTE TO: AGENCY/OFFICE	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION		
		CODE	DATE	TYPE RESPONSE	CODE	COMPLETED
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS	DAVID HOBBS	ORG	4/27/2004	DH	A	5/10/04
<b>ACTION COMMENTS:</b>						
<del>DOS</del>	<del>CJ</del>	<del>R</del>	<del>04/05/04</del>	<del>X</del>	<del>A</del>	<del>6/17/04</del>
<b>ACTION COMMENTS:</b>						
NSC		I			C	
<b>ACTION COMMENTS:</b>						
<b>ACTION COMMENTS:</b>						
<b>ACTION COMMENTS:</b>						

**COMMENTS:**

**MEDIA:** LETTER

**USER CODE:**

SCANNED  
BY  
ORM

ACTION CODES:		DISPOSITION	
A - APPROPRIATE ACTION	<b>TYPE RESPONSE:</b>	<b>DISPOSITION CODES:</b>	<b>COMPLETED DATE:</b>
B - RESEARCH AND REPORT BACK			
D - DRAFT RESPONSE	TYPE RESPONSE = INITIALS OF SIGNER NRN = NO RESPONSE NEEDED	A - ANSWERED/ ACKNOWLEDGED C - CLOSED X - INTERIM REPLY	COMPLETED = DATE OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OR CLOSE- OUT DATE (MM/DD/YY)
I - INFO COPY/NO ACT NECESSARY			
R - DIRECT REPLY W/ COPY			

**REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO DOCUMENT TRACKING UNIT (ROOM 84, OEOP) EXT-62590 KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO OFFICE OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT**



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

JUN 17 2004

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This is in response to your April 2 letter to President Bush regarding your continuing concern that former Liberian president Charles Taylor has not been transferred to the Special Court for Sierra Leone.

The Administration and the Congress share a common goal of seeing Taylor held accountable. Mr. Taylor should appear before the Special Court and we note, in this regard, that the Special Court recently dismissed his challenge to its jurisdiction. Taylor should not escape justice because of the expiration of the Special Court's mandate. We are looking for appropriate ways to see that this does not occur.

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We are pursuing a variety of programs with the National Transitional Government of Liberia and the UN Mission in Liberia to close down Taylor's ability to influence events in Liberia. Based on our conversations with Chairman Bryant, we are convinced that the National Transitional Government of Liberia shares our concern over Taylor. Chairman Bryant has expressed his willingness to work with us to find an appropriate strategy to resolving this problem. We understand that he also made that point during your June 8 meeting.

The Honorable

Frank R. Wolf, Chairman,

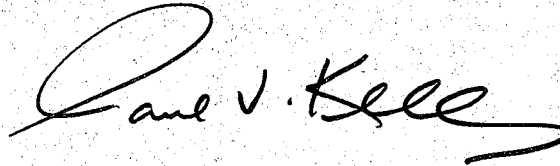
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, the Judiciary,  
and Related Agencies

Committee on Appropriations,  
House of Representatives.

#2004 0525-013

We hope information is helpful. We share your interest in this issue, and will continue to follow it closely. Please do not hesitate to contact us again on this or any other matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul V. Kelly". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P" and a long, sweeping underline.

Paul V. Kelly  
Assistant Secretary  
Legislative Affairs

**THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE  
REFERRAL**

**May 14, 2004**

**TO:** DEPARTMENT OF STATE

**ACTION REQUESTED:** DIRECT REPLY W/COPY

**FAXED**

**DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:**

**ID:** 618176

**MEDIA:** LETTER

**DOCUMENT DATE:** APRIL 02, 2004

**TO:** PRESIDENT BUSH

**FROM:** FRANK WOLF  
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

**SUBJECT:** WRITES TO SHARE WITH THE PRESIDENT A LETTER THAT HE AND 28 MEMBERS OF CONGRESS SENT TO SECRETARY OF STATE COLIN POWELL ASKING THAT THE U.S. ACT SWIFTLY TO ENSURE THAT THE FORMER PRESIDENT OF LIBERIA CHARLES TAYLOR BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR HIS HEINOUS CRIMES AND BROUGHT BEFORE THE SPECIAL COURT FOR SIERRA LEONE

**COMMENTS:**

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PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE UNDERSIGNED AT 456-2590.

RETURN **ORIGINAL** CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE (OR DRAFT) TO: DOCUMENT TRACKING UNIT, ROOM 84, OFFICE OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT - THE WHITE HOUSE, 20500



618176

May 10, 2004

Dear Representative Wolf:

Due to mail screening procedures, we have only recently received your April 2, 2004 letter addressed to the President regarding former Liberian President Charles Taylor.

My staff is reviewing your correspondence for an appropriate response, and we thank you for your patience. Please be assured your letter is receiving our close and careful attention.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Legislative Correspondence Office at (202) 456-5996.

Respectfully yours,



David Hobbs  
Assistant to the President  
for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable Frank Wolf  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Bcc for Appropriate Action: DOS  
For Information: NSC

MAY 14 2004

**FRANK R. WOLF**

10TH DISTRICT, VIRGINIA

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEES:

CHAIRMAN—COMMERCE-JUSTICE-  
STATE AND JUDICIARY

HOMELAND SECURITY

TRANSPORTATION-TREASURY  
AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

CO-CHAIR—CONGRESSIONAL  
HUMAN RIGHTS CAUCUS



618176

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HERNDON, VA 20171  
(703) 709-5800  
(800) 945-9653 (IN STATE)

110 NORTH CAMERON STREET  
WINCHESTER, VA 22601  
(540) 667-0990  
(800) 850-3463 (IN STATE)

www.house.gov/wolf

# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

April 2, 2004

The Honorable George W. Bush  
The President  
The White House  
Washington DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I want to share with you a letter to Secretary of State Colin Powell that 28 members of Congress have signed asking that the United States act swiftly to ensure that Charles Taylor, former president of Liberia and a fugitive from justice, is held accountable for his heinous crimes and brought before the Special Court for Sierra Leone.

I urge you to act immediately to ensure that justice is done in this case. It will be a travesty of justice if the United States does not speak out and press the appropriate government officials to do what is morally just and secure Charles Taylor's presence before the Special Court.

There should be no safe harbor for tyrants like Charles Taylor. Now is the time for decisive action.

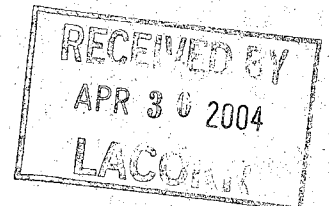
Best wishes.

Sincerely,

Frank R. Wolf  
Member of Congress

FRW:sp

*Best wishes*



**FRANK R. WOLF**

10TH DISTRICT, VIRGINIA

**COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS**

SUBCOMMITTEES:

CHAIRMAN—COMMERCE-JUSTICE-  
STATE AND JUDICIARY

HOMELAND SECURITY

TRANSPORTATION-TREASURY  
AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

CO-CHAIR—CONGRESSIONAL  
HUMAN RIGHTS CAUCUS



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

April 1, 2004

241 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-4610  
(202) 225-5136

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WINCHESTER, VA 22601  
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(800) 850-3463 (IN STATE)

[www.house.gov/wolf](http://www.house.gov/wolf)

The Honorable Colin Powell  
Secretary of State  
2201 C St NW Ste 7276  
Washington DC 20520

Dear Secretary Powell:

We are writing to express deep concern that Charles Taylor, former president of Liberia and now a fugitive from justice, has not been brought before the Special Court for Sierra Leone. Charles Taylor faces 17 counts of war crimes, crimes against humanity, and violations of international humanitarian law. Charles Taylor's time is up. We are asking that you make a concerted effort to see that he is brought before the Special Court.

The despotic rule of Charles Taylor in Sierra Leone, while president of Liberia, represents his tyrannical influence in fueling Sierra Leone's ten-year civil war. He is accused of providing financial support, military training, and other support and encouragement to the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) to destabilize Sierra Leone in order to gain access to her diamond wealth.

Charles Taylor also organized and ordered widespread and systematic attacks to terrorize the civilian population in Sierra Leone. Disturbing examples include abductions, sexual slavery of women and children, large scale physical violence and unlawful killings, notably hacking off of limbs, facial and bodily mutilations, body carvings, gang rapes, and hacking and burning to death those whom he felt did not sufficiently support the RUF.

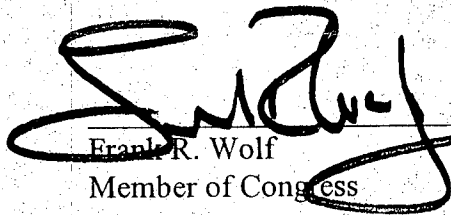
As you know, the three-year mandate of the Special Court for Sierra Leone expires June 30, 2005. Since its inception, the Special Court has been collecting and analyzing evidence against Charles Taylor. Just last week, the Special Court courthouse officially opened its doors.

Time is of the essence. Charles Taylor needs to be brought to justice before the three-year mandate expires. It is intolerable that Charles Taylor is living with impunity in the lap of luxury in Nigeria, with just about anything he needs at his disposal, including a cell phone. There is growing evidence that Charles Taylor continues to meddle in the political affairs of Liberia. He has expressed a desire to return to Liberia. We must not be blind to the fact that he has not lost his thirst for the political power he once had before his exile.

The Honorable Colin Powell  
April 1, 2004  
Page 2

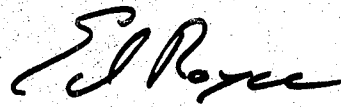
We have no doubt that you find Charles Taylor's brutal cycle of violence as abhorrent as we do. We urge you to act swiftly to ensure that Charles Taylor is held accountable for his actions. There should be no safe harbor for tyrants like Charles Taylor. We must act now.

Sincerely,



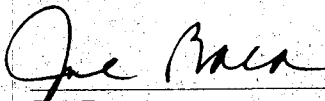
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Frank R. Wolf  
Member of Congress



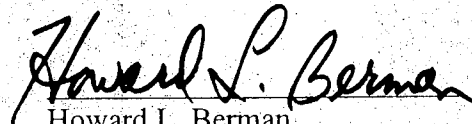
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Edward R. Royce  
Member of Congress



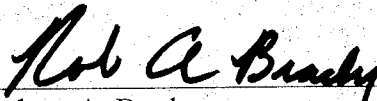
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Joe Baca  
Member of Congress



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Howard L. Berman  
Member of Congress



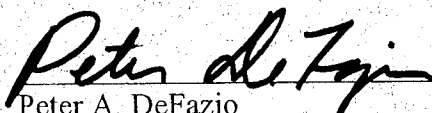
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Robert A. Brady  
Member of Congress



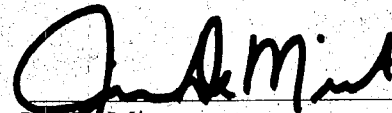
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John A. Culberson  
Member of Congress



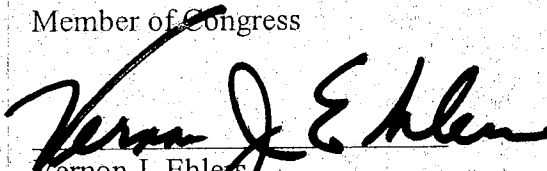
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Peter A. DeFazio  
Member of Congress



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Jim DeMint  
Member of Congress



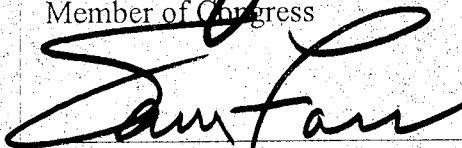
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Vernon J. Ehlers  
Member of Congress



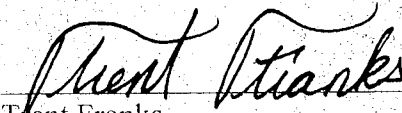
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Lane Evans  
Member of Congress



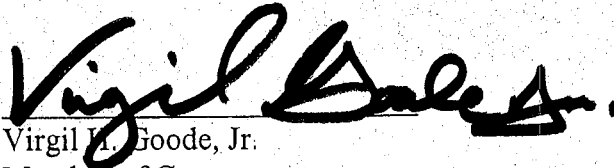
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Sam Farr  
Member of Congress

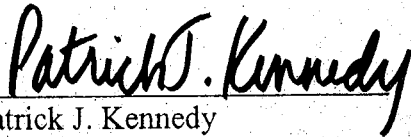


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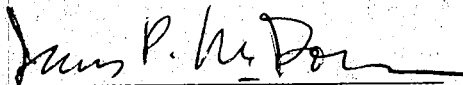
Trent Franks  
Member of Congress



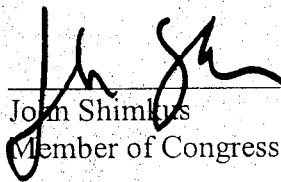
Virgil M. Goode, Jr.  
Member of Congress



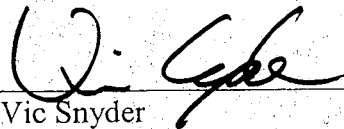
Patrick J. Kennedy  
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress



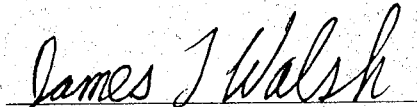
John Shimkus  
Member of Congress



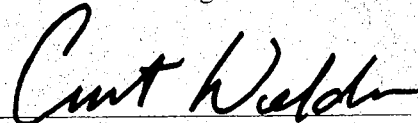
Vic Snyder  
Member of Congress



Ellen O. Tauscher  
Member of Congress



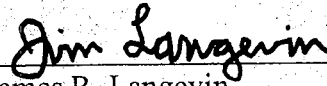
James T. Walsh  
Member of Congress



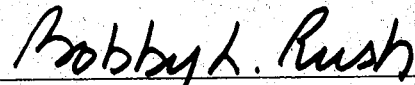
Curt Weldon  
Member of Congress



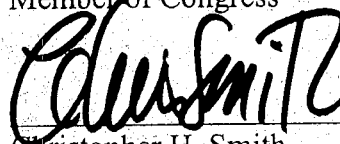
Michael M. Honda  
Member of Congress



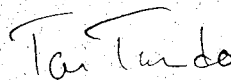
James R. Langevin  
Member of Congress



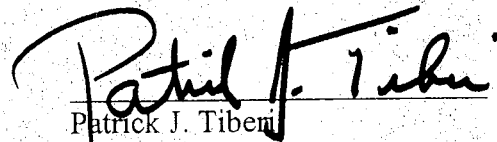
Bobby L. Rush  
Member of Congress



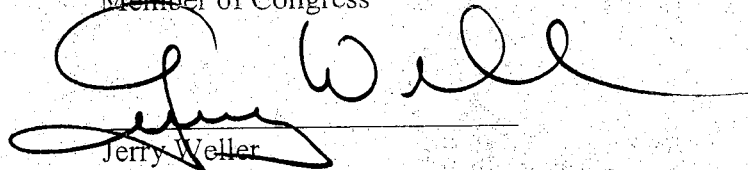
Christopher H. Smith  
Member of Congress



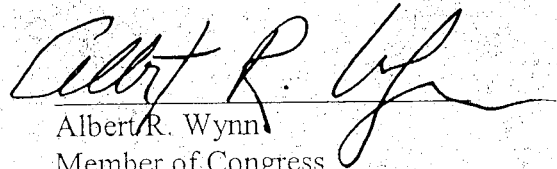
Thomas G. Tancredo  
Member of Congress



Patrick J. Tiberi  
Member of Congress



Jerry Weller  
Member of Congress



Albert R. Wynn  
Member of Congress