

**Special Court for Sierra Leone**  
Press and Public Affairs Office

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**Freetown, Sierra Leone, 17 September 2003**

### **Santigie Kanu Indicted**

Alleged former junta commander Santigie Kanu, alias “Brigadier 55,” was transferred on Wednesday to the custody of the Special Court. On Monday, the Court applied for his transfer from the custody of national authorities.

The Special Court has issued a seventeen-count indictment against Kanu. Charges include crimes against humanity, Violations of Article 3 common to the Geneva Conventions and of Additional Protocol II, and other serious violations of international humanitarian law.

Kanu is being held at the Court’s detention facility in Freetown, and will make his initial appearance before a Special Court judge early next week. He had been in the custody of the national courts since March on treason charges.

#END

The Special Court is an independent tribunal established jointly by the United Nations Security Council and the Government of Sierra Leone. It is mandated to bring to justice those who bear the greatest responsibility for atrocities committed in Sierra Leone since 30 November 1996. To date, prosecutors have indicted thirteen persons on various charges of war crimes, crimes against humanity, and other serious violations of international humanitarian law. Nine indictees are currently in the custody of the Court.

INFORMATION FOR MEDIA - NOT FOR ADVERTISING

Produced by the  
Press and Public Affairs Office  
Special Court for Sierra Leone  
Mobile: 232 76 655 237  
Email: [SCSL-pressoffice@un.org](mailto:SCSL-pressoffice@un.org)

Visit our website at [www.sc-sl.org](http://www.sc-sl.org)