

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY ACTIVITIES - Wednesday, December 8, 2015

- President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, who is also Grand Master of the Orders of Distinction, has admitted the departing Ambassador of the United States of America, Her Excellency Deborah Ruth Malac, into the Star of Africa, with the Grade of Grand Band at a special investiture ceremony and farewell reception at the Foreign Ministry's C. Cecil Dennis, Jr. Auditorium today, December 8, 2015.

The Liberian leader termed Ambassador Malac's tour of duty here as an "effective and exemplary" representation of her country. She said since her arrival here on September 20, 2012, she has been at the center of Liberia's development efforts and instrumental in the country's drive to consolidate its fledgling democracy.

In response, an elated outgoing Ambassador Malac expressed appreciation for the honor bestowed on her by the Government and people of Liberia. Almost shedding tears, the outgoing U.S. Ambassador said she was very sad to be leaving as it had been a wonderful three years – good, bad and ugly – that she has participated in and taking these memories along with her.

Before the reading of the Citation and Conferral of the Distinction, the Minister of Internal Affairs gowned Ambassador Malac and named her Paramount Chief Gorlue, for her devotion to promoting the welfare of humanity.

The Ministries of Foreign Affairs, State for Presidential Affairs, Agriculture, National Defense, Public Works, Youth and Sports; General Services Agency, Liberia National Police, Liberia Refugee, Repatriation, Resettlement Commission, and the Forestry Development Authority presented gifts to Ambassador Malac, thanking her for initiatives through which most of these entities benefited.

Among those present at the well-attended program were: Vice President Joseph N. Boakai; Chief Justice, His Honor Francis Korkpor, Cabinet Ministers and other senior officials of Government; members of the Diplomatic and Consular Corps; traditional and religious leaders, leaders of political parties and well-wishers.