

## President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf Greet Burn Victim



### Shriners Hospital for Children in Boston Will Provide Reconstructive Surgery

**Monrovia, Liberia** - President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf met on Tuesday with Sackie Nyanquoi, the young Liberian man who was severely burned two years ago when armed robbers wasted raw acid water on his face and body.

Sackie, accompanied by his mother, Satta Tamba, paid a courtesy call on President Sirleaf, ahead of his trip to the United States for pro bono reconstructive surgery at Shriners Hospital for Children in Massachusetts.

The President presented the family with a "small purse" for incidentals and promised to follow his case, monitor his progress, and to render whatever support was needed.

Welcoming Sackie Nyanquoi and his mother to her Executive Mansion Office, the President said that his story had been brought to public notice: the attempted robbery in his home, and the robbers throwing acid on him when he went to pick up a cutlass to help his father; being taken to the JFK Medical Center where Dr. Robert Dennis tried to treat him;

and where another doctor, Jim Tomarken, a consultant at JFK, interceded on Sackie's behalf and was able to get the hospital in Massachusetts to treat him.

"We are just so pleased for that, and we'll follow his progress," the President said. "His mother will be accompanying him, and we're just thankful to Dr. Tomarken and all those who have been helping with Sackie's case, so that he can be normal again."

What happened was so bad, the President continued. She was aware that somebody had called for a ban on acid. That was being considered. "So, Sackie, we say sorry, but we're thankful to God that you have people who have come to your aid and who will be able to help you."

The President then gave Sackie a "small purse", which he handed to his mother, and promised to follow his case. "You'll be in hospital there, but you won't be far from us, through the telephone, through email, through our Embassy and our other offices."

**Ellen Offner and Judi Donnelly met Sackie at JFK Hospital and initiated discussions with Shriners Hospital.**