



The Acholi Religious Leaders Peace Initiative

Situational Report: October, 2009

South Sudan Bishop Lead Non-violent Protest Against LRA:

- At the end of September, a South Sudanese Bishop called for international intervention to stop LRA attacks and led 20,000 people on a barefoot walk to protest the lack of protection for vulnerable communities in the area, where LRA fighters have killed scores of people in recent months (RESOLVE).

Six IDP Camps Closed in Gulu:

- UNHCR has started the closure of six internally displaced persons (IDP) camps in Gulu. The camps to be closed include, Awoo, Lalogi, Okwir, Awach, St. Thomas and Opit. About 23,000 people are still in the camps in Gulu. UNHCR warned against the forced eviction of those remaining (NEW VISION).

LRA Move Towards Chad:

- On October 8th, a Ugandan Army Official reports that Kony and other LRA fighters are heading towards Chad as a result of heavy bombardment by the Ugandan and Congolese forces (DEUTSCHE PRESSE AGENTUR).

Museveni Invites Bashir to Uganda:

- Museveni states that he will not arrest Bashir if he attends the African Union (AU) meeting in Kampala the week of October 19th. Uganda's ICC Country Coordinator, Ms. Maria Kamara however said that Uganda and other African countries who are signatories of the Rome Statute have the responsibility to arrest Basir regardless of the stance of the AU (DAILY MONITOR).

Legislators Back Land Bill:

- NRM MP's report they will unanimously support the Land Bill 2007 saying it's the only solution to stop rampant land evictions (NEW VISION).

Southern Sudan Religious Leaders Urge International Community to Respond Violence:

- On Oct 15th, Religious Leaders issued a joint statement requesting the help from the international community to implement the Comprehensive Peace Agreement. In the statement they also highlighted how LRA has further destabilized the region (ANGLICAN MAINSTREAM).

LRA Activity During the Month of October:

Sudan:

- On Oct. 21st, LRA attacks an IDP camp in the in Western Bahr Al-Ghazal State of Darfur, killing 3 police who were guarding the camp and 2 Darfuris. Miryana FM reports 21 people were also abducted. (REUTERS).

- Food production in the Western Equatoria state is significantly reduced causing food insecurity as farmers fled their farmland in fear of LRA attacks, according to Governor of Western Equatoria State, Jemma Nunu Kumba (MIRYANA FM).

DR Congo:

- On October 6th Ugandan rebels killed 22 villagers in an attack on Digba in the Democratic Republic of Congo's northeast Orientale province (AFP).
- On Oct 13th, LRA attacked d'Epi in the territory of d'Ango, Bas-Uele abducting 13. (RELIEF WEB)

For more information on the above, please contact ARLPI's Information, Documentation and Research Officer at pressing_forward@hotmail.com or +256 (0) 782807156.

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