



# TV UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES

## U.N. IN ACTION

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Week of 14 February 2005  
Programme No. 944  
Length: 3'12"

### CONGO YOUTH FIGHT TO STAY OFF STREETS OF KINSHASA

#### VIDEO

TRAVEL SHOT [13"]

LINE-UP OF BOYS

CALLING OUT THEIR NAMES

END TRAVEL SHOT

DISSOLVE

BOYS PLAYING INDOORS

BOYS w/ GARBAGE AND MONEY

SHOE SHINE

STREET HUSSLE

CAR ARRIVES AT HOUSE

CEDRIC WAVES AT CAMERA

YASMINA HANGING OUT WITH

#### AUDIO

##### NATURAL SOUND

*"Dieumerci... Pierre..."*

##### NARRATION

These boys... ..are street kids in Kinshasa, the capital of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Some are orphaned by war....some were child soldiers.....all survived a six-year bloody war that killed more than three million people.

[ NATSOT .....*Cedric*.....*Lendo* ]

For these boys, and thousands like them in Kinshasa, life after war is a struggle just to survive.

Shining shoes...begging on the streets...selling anything they can get their hands on.

But that's slowly changing – For a handful of boys, like fifteen year-old orphan Cedric, nicknamed the "Terrible" – there's finally a way off the streets.

Here, staff members from MONUC, the U.N.

KIDS AT THE HOUSE, IS SHOWN  
INDOORS

peacekeeping mission in the Congo, volunteer  
their spare time -- and own money -- to provide  
shelter, clothing, and meals to dozens of street  
kids like Cedric.

CEDRIC ON-CAMERA

CEDRIC: (In French)

"I was becoming violent out there on the streets.  
But now, thanks to you, here I am! I'm well  
dressed, I'm well fed, and I sleep just fine."

BOYS PLAYING TRUST GAMES  
WITH SOCIAL WORKERS,  
OUTDOORS

NARRATION

Also available... counselling with social workers  
and therapeutic games like this in which boys rely  
on each other and learn to trust one another.

They're even going to school, most for the first  
time in their lives.

CLASSROOM/BLACKBOARD

Safely off the streets, these boys can now begin  
to dream.

SHOTS OF CHILDREN  
CU TRESOR, DAYDREAMING IN CLASS  
DISSOLVE

A once skinny child sleeping on the sidewalks,  
Tresor, thirteen years-old, now hopes to become  
a boxer.

2004:

TRESOR WARMING UP  
WITH MAITRE MACHINE

Every afternoon, young Tresor trains at the  
national stadium with his coaches...

MAITRE MACHINE ON-CAMERA

MAITRE MACHINE (In French)

"He didn't know anything when he first started.  
Now he's learned why, when and where to  
punch."

COACH ON CAMERA

COACH (In French)

“I like him. This kid’s got guts”.

TRESOR WITH YASMINA

NARRATION

Tresor’s determination has paid off outside the boxing arena as well, says MONUC’s Yazmina Bouziane.

BOUZIANE ON-CAMERA

BOUZIANE:

“He’s seen his body change. We’ve seen his morale change. He also seems to have become very much of a leader, showing others that if you have the discipline, this is what you can do.”

STREET KIDS SPARRING AT  
CAMERA

NARRATION

But keeping such programs –and dreams – alive for the street children here takes money and commitment says Bouziane.

BOUZIANE ON-CAMERA

BOUZIANE:

“So that’s what we really hope, that we’ll be able to sustain this project”

UNHQ STAFF INDOORS  
WORKING

NARRATION

Efforts to do just that are underway worldwide. From the Congo....to U.N. Headquarters in New York, staff members set up a foundation named “The Little Okapis” after the Congo’s gentle herbivores.

TRESOR STANDING INSIDE

Donations not only sustain the programme in Kinshasa but may help establish it as a model

STADIUM,SUNSET

throughout the Congo. It's a programme that gives boys like Tresor and thousands like him, a fighting chance to stay off the streets. .

UN LOGO

This report was prepared by Michele Zaccheo for the United Nations.