

## **U.N. IN ACTION**

Week of 27 February 2006 Programme No. 998 Length: 4'28"

## THE TERRIBLE PLIGHT OF CHILD-MOTHERS IN NORTHERN UGANDA

<u>VIDEO</u>	<u>AUDIO</u>
MOTHERS/BABIES WORLD VISION ACTIVITIES	NARRATION These young women are the most poignant legacy of a little-known civil war that has shattered the lives of the Acholi people in northern Uganda. (7)
UPDF/UGANDAN MILITARY GUNSHIP	For 19 years, the government of Uganda has fought against the Lords Resistance Army or LRA – a rebel militia that uses child soldiers abducted during night-time raids. (11)
DISPLACED POPULATION	Florence Lakor is well-acquainted with these child-soldiers: (3.5)
LAKOR ON-CAMERA	LAKOR:  "All of them were trained how to handle a gun and many of them have gone to raid and loot food.  Some of them were made to kill and beat others."  (12)
FLORENCE AT WORK – WORLD VISION ACTIVITIES	NARRATION Florence should know. Her own daughter was abducted in 1996. To cope with her tragedy,

Florence began working with World Vision International, a non-governmental organization supported by the United Nations. (12.5)

ACTIVITIES - WORLD VISION

ANA APARO

ANA APARO ON CAMERA

NARRATION

DRAWING CLASSES Not all child-mothers will talk. For them, art is a

powerful tool to help release fears and bottled-up

emotions. The pictures they draw are filled with

battle scenes, killings, and men with guns. (13)

MORE WORLD VISION

**ACTIVITIES** 

DRAWINGS

JENNIFER ACAN

six months while World Vision searches for their parents and relatives. But some child-mothers like Jennifer Acan, are afraid to go home. (11)

The girls and their babies will stay here for up to

ACAN: (In local dialect)

ACAN ON-CAMERA "Even before I was abducted my father was

drinking and beating us all the time. I have been

told that he is even worst now. " (10)

NARRATION

JENNIFER MEETS HER FAMILY Many child-mothers believe their lives are ruined -

that no man will ever accept a child fathered by a

soldier in the LRA. And there is a stigma for their

family. Jennifer's mother says she is happy to see

her daughter, but she can't stay with her.

Fortunately for Jennifer, her sister Evelyn, who

was herself abducted, will put her up for now. (21)

ANA APARO GOES HOME Ana Aparo hopes to stay with her brother. Her

mother and father are dead - killed by the LRA.

But when Ana goes to the village, she finds her

sister-in-law - not her brother - at his hut. In spite

of the warm welcome, it's unlikely Ana will be

allowed to stay here. (16)

## <u>NARRATION</u>

BEATRICE LAMWAKA GOES HOME

Beatrice Lamwaka and her daughter are lucky.

Her aunt is the only adult in her extended family
left alive. She welcomes Beatrice and accepts her
as a new daughter. (10)

HAPPY FAMILY REUNION CONTINUES

The first indictment from the International Criminal Court targeted the Lord's Resistance Army. The rebel leaders are now officially among the world's most wanted men. But the tragic legacy of the child-mothers will cast a pall long after the conflict ends, as another front in the war that needs reconciliation across generations. (21)

**UN LOGO** 

This report was prepared by the United Nations. (3)