



World Food
Programme

Programme
Alimentaire
Mondial

Programa
Mundial de
Alimentos

برنامج
الأغذية
العالمي

The Food Aid Organization of the United Nations

UGANDA VNR

Shot list

MOD-DATE: 04/20/07 12:53:48

AFRICADAILY1-APR20-UGANDA-FOOD CRISIS

AFRICADAILY1: STORY A591

FOOD CRISIS
OPIT, GULU AND KAMPALA UGANDA
RECENT
NATURAL WITH ENGLISH SPEECH
DURATION:03:03

SOURCE:WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME (WFP)
FEED HISTORY:AFRICADAILY1 (1300GMT)

INTRO: Relief efforts in Northern Uganda being hampered by lack of funding.

TV AND WEB RESTRICTIONS~NONE**~**

The United Nations says it will be forced to halve its food handouts for over one million people in Uganda due to the lack of funds.

(AD1) OUTSKIRTS OF GULU TOWN, NORTHERN UGANDA (RECENT) (WFP - ACCESS

ALL)

1. VARIOUS OF PEOPLE CARRYING FIREWOOD AND SACKS ON TOP OF BICYCLES WITH ARMoured VEHICLE ON THE ROAD
2. ARMoured VEHICLE
3. VARIOUS OF TRUCKS CARRYING FOOD BEING ESCORTED BY UGANDA



PEOPLE DEFENCE
FORCES (UPDF) TROOPS IN ARMOURED VEHICLES

(AD1) OPIT CAMP, GULU DISTRICT, NORTHERN UGANDA (RECENT) (WFP - ACCESS ALL)

ALL)

4. DISPLACED PEOPLE AT CAMP

5. PEOPLE IN QUEUE

6. VARIOUS OF WOMeN SCOOPING MAIZE INTO SACKS

7. MORE OF PEOPLE AT THE CAMP CARRYING SACKS OF MAIZE

8. (SOUNDBITE) (English) BENSON OTTO, COMMUNITY LEADER, OPIT CAMP, SAYING:

"But in reality there is no peace in our area. We have our rebels still in the bush. We have still that fear. So there is no peace of mind. Because for one to be peaceful, he has to be mentally peaceful, totally assured that things are now normal."

9. VARIOUS OF OPIT CAMP

10. CHILDREN WALKING IN THE CAMP

(AD1) GULU, NORTHERN UGANDA (RECENT) (WFP - ACCESS ALL)

11. (SOUNDBITE) (English) PETER SMERDON, WFP SPOKESMAN, SAYING:

"Well the situation in northern Uganda for internally displaced people is extremely worrying, worrying for them and worrying for the World Food Programme, which has had this month to cut their rations to just 40 percent of the Minimum Daily Energy Requirements. This is quite a drastic cut. It's not one we wanted to do. But it's because of a shortage of contributions from donors."

(AD1) GULU, NORTHERN UGANDA (RECENT) (WFP - ACCESS ALL)

12. MEN CARRYING WFP BAGS OF FOOD OFF TRUCK INTO WAREHOUSE

13. VARIOUS OF MEN CARRYING BAGS OF AID IN WAREHOUSE

(AD1) OPIT CAMP, GULU DISTRICT, NORTHERN UGANDA (RECENT) (WFP - ACCESS ALL)

11. ROAD TO THE CAMP

12. DISPLACED PEOPLE SITTING IN THE CAMP

13. VARIOUS OF CHILDREN IN THE CAMP

(AD1) KAMPALA, UGANDA (RECENT) (WFP - ACCESS ALL)

14. (SOUNDBITE) (English) TESEMA NEGASH, WFP UGANDA COUNTRY DIRECTOR, SAYING:

"I think it is a question of perception, Donors, particularly those who are represented on the ground here, do appreciate the situation we are in today. For those who are not physically represented here, the perception is because of the semblance of peace in northern Uganda, because of the negotiations and the discussions between the LRA and the government of Uganda, they think peace has prevailed; the IDPs have gone back; there is no need for sustained or increased or even to maintain the current level of



assistance."

(AD1) OUTSKIRTS OF GULU TOWN, GULU DISTRICT, NORTHERN UGANDA
(RECENT) (WFP

- ACCESS ALL)

15. UGANDAN PEOPLE'S DEFENCE FORCES (UPDF) BUFFALO ARMoured
VEHICLE DRIVES
AWAY

STORY: The United Nations has said that a shortage of contributions has forced it to cut food rations for over one million displaced people in Northern Uganda.

Over two million people were displaced as they fled their homes during a 20 year rebellion by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) in the north.

Most of the people currently living in refugee camps have been relying on aid for their survival. World Food Program (WFP) trucks delivering food aid are being escorted by the Ugandan army for fear of attacks by rebels still believed to be hiding in the bush.

Talks between LRA leaders and the Ugandan government in 2006 resulted in a truce. About a quarter million people have already started returning home, but most of them are still unsure of their safety.

"But in reality there is no peace in our area. We have our rebels still in the bush. We have still that fear. So there is no peace of mind. Because for one to be peaceful, he has to be mentally peaceful, totally assured that things are now normal," said Benson Otto, a community leader in a camp in Opit.

The LRA is one of the most feared guerrilla groups in Africa, with a reputation for massacring civilians, slicing the noses and lips off their victims and kidnapping thousands of children to serve as fighters, porters and sex slaves.

"Well, the situation in northern Uganda for internally displaced people is extremely worrying, worrying for them and worrying for the World Food Programme, which has had this month to cut their rations to just 40 percent of the Minimum Daily Energy Requirements. This is quite a drastic cut. It's not one we wanted to do. But it's because of a shortage of contributions from donors," said Peter Smeardon, the WFP spokesman.

The WFP provides emergency food aid to 1.3 million of the displaced people. In the camps many are unable to till fields around their shelters for fear of attack by marauding guerrillas.

A peace deal remains elusive as the rebels' top commanders are hiding from war crimes indictments against them in the International Criminal Court, and many Ugandans fear a resumption of one of Africa's longest conflicts.

WFP has warned that until a peace deal is signed and all those displaced are able to go back home, Northern Uganda will continue to need aid and funding.

"I think it is a question of perception, donors, particularly those who are represented on the ground here, do appreciate the situation we are in today. For those who are not physically represented here, the



perception is because of the semblance of peace in northern Uganda, because of the negotiations and the discussions between the LRA and the government of Uganda, they think peace has prevailed; the IDPs have gone back; there is no need for sustained or increased or even to maintain the current level of assistance," said Tesema Negash, WFP Uganda Country Director.

If the shortage of funds continues, WFP said, it would be forced to make further cuts in May to rations for 600,000 school children fed under an emergency food for education programme, as well as some 240,000 HIV/AIDS sufferers.