

108TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 2264

To require a report on the conflict in Uganda, and for other purposes.

---

## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 31, 2004

Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself and Mr. ALEXANDER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

---

## A BILL

To require a report on the conflict in Uganda, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Northern Uganda Cri-  
5       sis Response Act”.

6       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7       Congress makes the following findings:

8               (1) The United States and the Republic of  
9       Uganda enjoy a strong bilateral relationship and  
10      continue to work closely together in fighting the  
11      human immunodeficiency virus and acquired im-

1        mune deficiency syndrome (“HIV/AIDS”) pandemic  
2        and combating international terrorism.

3            (2) For more than 17 years, the Government of  
4        Uganda has been engaged in a conflict with the  
5        Lord’s Resistance Army that has inflicted hardship  
6        and suffering on the people of northern and eastern  
7        Uganda.

8            (3) The members of the Lord’s Resistance  
9        Army have used brutal tactics during this conflict,  
10       including abducting and forcing individuals into sex-  
11       ual servitude, and forcing a large number of chil-  
12       dren, estimated to be between 16,000 and 26,000  
13       children, in Uganda to serve in such Army’s military  
14       forces.

15           (4) The Secretary of State has designated the  
16       Lord’s Resistance Army as a terrorist organization  
17       and placed the Lord’s Resistance Army on the Ter-  
18       rorist Exclusion list pursuant to section 212(a)(3) of  
19       the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.  
20       1182(a)(3)).

21           (5) According to Human Rights Watch, since  
22       the mid-1990s the only known sponsor of the Lord’s  
23       Resistance Army has been the Government of  
24       Sudan, though such Government denies providing  
25       assistance to the Lord’s Resistance Army.

1           (6) More than 1,000,000 people have been dis-  
2           placed from their homes in Uganda as a result of  
3           the conflict.

4           (7) The conflict has resulted in a lack of secu-  
5           rity for the people of Uganda, and as a result of  
6           such lack, each night more than 18,000 children  
7           leave their homes and flee to the relative safety of  
8           town centers, creating a massive “night commuter”  
9           phenomenon that leaves already vulnerable children  
10          subject to exploitation and abuse.

11          (8) Individuals who have been displaced by the  
12          conflict in Uganda often suffer from acute malnutri-  
13          tion and the mortality rate for children in northern  
14          Uganda who have been displaced is very high.

15          (9) In the latter part of 2003, humanitarian  
16          and human rights organizations operating in north-  
17          ern Uganda reported an increase in violence directed  
18          at their efforts and at civilians, including a sharp in-  
19          crease in child abductions.

20          (10) The Government of Uganda’s military ef-  
21          forts to resolve this conflict, including the arming  
22          and training of local militia forces, have not ensured  
23          the security of civilian populations in the region to  
24          date.

1           (11) The continued instability and lack of secu-  
2           rity in Uganda has severely hindered the ability of  
3           any organization or governmental entity to deliver  
4           regular humanitarian assistance and services to indi-  
5           viduals who have been displaced or otherwise nega-  
6           tively affected by the conflict.

7   **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

8           It is the sense of Congress that the Government of  
9   the United States should—

10           (1) work vigorously to support ongoing efforts  
11           to explore the prospects for a peaceful resolution of  
12           the conflict in northern and eastern Uganda;

13           (2) work with the Government of Uganda and  
14           the international community to make available suffi-  
15           cient resources to meet the immediate relief and de-  
16           velopment needs of the towns and cities in Uganda  
17           that are supporting large numbers of people who  
18           have been displaced by the conflict;

19           (3) urge the Government of Uganda and the  
20           international community to assume greater responsi-  
21           bility for the protection of civilians and economic de-  
22           velopment in regions in Uganda affected by the con-  
23           flict, and to place a high priority on providing secu-  
24           rity, economic development, and humanitarian as-  
25           sistance to the people of Uganda;

1           (4) work with the international community, the  
2           Government of Uganda, and civil society in northern  
3           and eastern Uganda to develop a plan whereby those  
4           now displaced may return to their homes or to other  
5           locations where they may become economically pro-  
6           ductive;

7           (5) urge the leaders and members of the Lord's  
8           Resistance Army to stop the abduction of children,  
9           and urge all armed forces in Uganda to stop the use  
10          of child soldiers, and seek the release of all individ-  
11          uals who have been abducted;

12          (6) make available increased resources for as-  
13          sistance to individuals who were abducted during the  
14          conflict, child soldiers, and other children affected by  
15          the conflict;

16          (7) work with the Government of Uganda, other  
17          countries, and international organizations to ensure  
18          that sufficient resources and technical support are  
19          devoted to the demobilization and reintegration of  
20          rebel combatants and abductees forced by their cap-  
21          tors to serve in non-combatant support roles;

22          (8) cooperate with the international community  
23          to support civil society organizations and leaders in  
24          Uganda, including Acholi religious leaders, who are

1       working toward a just and lasting resolution to the  
2       conflict;

3           (9) urge the Government of Uganda to improve  
4       the professionalism of Ugandan military personnel  
5       currently stationed in northern and eastern Uganda,  
6       with an emphasis on respect for human rights, ac-  
7       countability for abuses, and effective civilian protec-  
8       tion;

9           (10) work with the international community to  
10      assist institutions of civil society in Uganda to in-  
11      crease the capacity of such institutions to monitor  
12      the human rights situation in northern Uganda and  
13      to raise awareness of abuses of human rights that  
14      occur in that area;

15          (11) urge the Government of Uganda to permit  
16      international human rights monitors to establish a  
17      presence in northern and eastern Uganda;

18          (12) monitor the creation of civilian militia  
19      forces in northern and eastern Uganda and publicize  
20      any concerns regarding the recruitment of children  
21      into such forces or the potential that the establish-  
22      ment of such forces will invite increased targeting of  
23      civilians in the conflict or exacerbate ethnic tension  
24      and violence; and

1           (13) make clear that the relationship between  
2           the Government of Sudan and the Government of  
3           the United States cannot improve unless no credible  
4           evidence indicates that authorities of the Govern-  
5           ment of Sudan are complicit in efforts to provide  
6           weapons or other support to the Lord's Resistance  
7           Army.

8   **SEC. 4. REPORT.**

9           (a) REQUIREMENTS.—Not later than 6 months after  
10          the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State  
11          shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional  
12          committees on the conflict in Uganda.

13          (b) CONTENT.—The report required by subsection  
14          (a) shall include a description of the following:

15                (1) The individuals or entities that are pro-  
16                viding financial and material support for the Lord's  
17                Resistance Army, including a description of any such  
18                support provided by the Government of Sudan or by  
19                senior officials of such Government.

20                (2) The activities of the Lord's Resistance  
21                Army that create obstacles that prohibit the provi-  
22                sion of humanitarian assistance or the protection of  
23                the civilian population in Uganda.

24                (3) The practices employed by the Ugandan  
25                People's Defense Forces in northern and eastern

1       Uganda to ensure that children and civilians are  
2       protected, that civilian complaints are addressed,  
3       and that any member of the armed forces that  
4       abuses a civilian is held accountable for such abuse.

5           (4) The actions carried out by the Government  
6       of the United States, the Government of Uganda, or  
7       the international community to protect civilians, es-  
8       pecially women and children, who have been dis-  
9       placed by the conflict in Uganda, including women  
10      and children that leave their homes and flee to cities  
11      and towns at night in search of security from sexual  
12      exploitation and gender-based violence.

13      (c) FORM OF REPORT.—The report under subsection  
14   (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may in-  
15   clude a classified annex.

16      (d) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES  
17   DEFINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate con-  
18   gressional committees” means the Committee on Foreign  
19   Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Inter-  
20   national Relations of the House of Representatives.

○