Central Africa
Pattern Analysis of the Lord’s Resistance Army and Affected Internally Displaced Persons
May 2011
LRA Overview – A Brief History

- **The Lord’s Resistance Army**
  - Led by Joseph Kony, an ethnic Acholi (Uganda)
  - Ideology and objectives vague; pledged to rule Uganda by the Bible’s Ten Commandments
  - Group uses terror to induce fear and control over civilians
  - LRA amasses supplies and personnel by attacking villages
  - In 2005, military pressure forced LRA out of Uganda

- **In Exile...**
  - LRA now operates primarily in NE Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and the Central African Republic (CAR)
  - Regional governments lack the ability to maintain security in LRA-afflicted areas
  - LRA continues to demonstrate ability to survive in the inaccessible terrain of the region.
The word Azande means “the people who possess much land”, and refers to their history as conquering warriors.

They speak Zande, which they call Pazande in their language. It is an Adamawa-Ubangi derived language.

Small-scale farmers and settled land owners, raised only chickens until the 1980s; now they include goats and pigs.

Traditional beliefs in magic and witchcraft, known as 'mangu', are strong. Several near-daily rituals exist that focus on protection from or canceling out the powers of witchcraft.

Assessment: The Azande way of life makes them a target of convenience for LRA. Their tribal region extends throughout the tri-border area, and they are tied to land, possessing both crops and domestic animals.
This graphic is a Signature Analyst™ assessment that depicts the likelihood IDP activity could occur in a given area.
Assessment: The yellow boundaries, while showing no previous LRA attacks, indicates these locations have similar factors that normally attract LRA activity. It is likely LRA could potentially target populations within these boundaries based on these existing favorable conditions.
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