

Group are the contractors and supervised by Korea Engineering Consultants Ltd.

Junction, Kabira Junction, Kira Road (four lanes), Makerere Hill Road (four lanes) Mambule

All reconstructed roads have signalised traffic lights, drainage systems and paved

Musisi road will be con-

Chimpanzees kidnap five-month-old baby

By Ismael Kasooa

A five-month-old baby kidnapped by a troop of chimpanzees in Kyamajaka village, Muhorro town council in Kagadi district is admitted to hospital with multiple injuries.

Oliver Kemigisa said Rachael Karungi and her three-year-old sibling were sitting on the verandah as she cooked food on Sunday evening when a troop of chimpanzees attacked.

"I had just taken a few steps into the house when I heard my children crying. I saw over 20 chimpanzees surrounding them. One had already picked Karungi and the others were aiming for her brother, who was yelling," she narrated.

Kemigisa said while she shouted for help, she fought off the chimpanzees that eventually surrendered the three-year-old child as the others ran off with Karungi into a nearby bush.

She said neighbours rushed to her compound, where they launched an assault on the chimpanzees.

The search team later recovered the baby in the forest.

The chimpanzees had removed her colourful skirt and covered her with grass to conceal her.

Doctor's report

Conrad Kusiima, the head of Muhorro Health Centre III, said the baby was

RESIDENTS SPEAK OUT

Norah Nakanwagih the LC1 chairperson of Kyamajaka
So far, 10 children have been killed by chimpanzees and 20 rescued

Robert Sanyu, resident,
We appeal to the President to come to our rescue because our livelihoods are interrupted since we cannot till the land for food.

Nyamahunge Baguma the Karuswiga ward councillor
Women cannot fetch water from the well, unless they are escorted by men. Working in the gardens has also become risky.

Godfrey Nangonza, the LC3 chairman Muhorro town
I have tried to meet the commissioner in charge of wildlife and tourism in Kampala, but nothing has been done.

Chimpanzees number about 60. We are competing with them for survival and that is why they are attacking people and killing children. The chimpanzees used to stay in Muzizi Forest, but people have cut the entire forest, hence destroying their habitat.

admitted unconscious with bruises on the forehead, but had since improved.

He added that the child also had a Hematoma (internal bleeding on the head,) but with treatment, he is optimistic that the condition will improve.

Kemigisa, who was nursing her baby at the hospital, said chimpanzees were a common sight in the village, where they raid gardens in search for food.

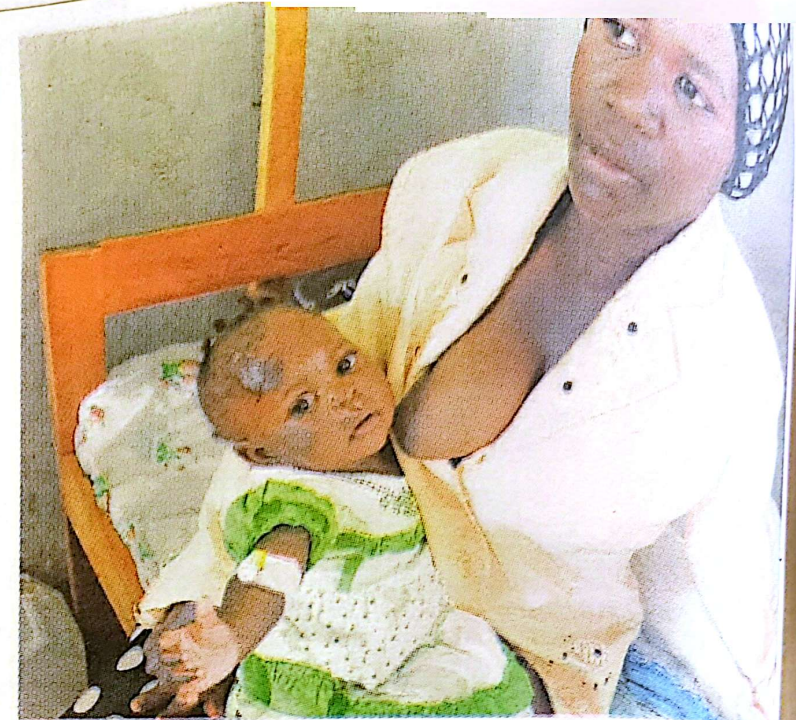
Kagadi and Kibaale districts have expansive forest cover, the biggest being Kagombe central forest reserve. Neighbouring Hoima has Bugoma

BETWEEN THE LINES

■ Last year, two children were kidnapped and, in 2014, a two-year-old child was killed by chimpanzees in the same village.

forest reserve while Masindi has Budongo, considered to be the biggest chimpanzee habitat in Uganda.

Commenting about the Muhorro incident, Sam Mwanda, the executive director of Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA), said: "Snatching babies



Kemigisa nursing her baby at Muhorro Health Centre III, Kagadi district yesterday. Photo by Ismael Kasooa

is carried out by naughty chimps. Sometimes, there are things which cannot be easily explained and this is one of them."

Previous attacks

This is not the first incident where children have been attacked by the chimpanzees.

Last year, two children were kidnapped and, in 2014, a two-year-

old child was killed by chimpanzees in the same village.

Mujuni Semata, a son of Zablon Semata, was kidnapped by chimpanzees on a Sunday and died a few hours after being rescued.

In June 2013, seven-year-old Ankunda from Mabaale village in Bwibara sub-county was attacked by chimpanzees who invaded his home. His neighbours came to his rescue.