General Information

Source: NBC Nightly News
Creator: Tom Brokaw/Bonnie Anderson
Event Date: 04/01/1985
Air/Publish Date: 04/01/1985

Resource Type: Video News Report
Copyright: NBCUniversal Media, LLC.
Copyright Date: 1985
Clip Length: 00:01:43

Description
"Sudan is in crisis, with political unrest, drought, and economic problems leading to strikes, protests, and violence."

Keywords
"Sudan, Africa, Khartoum, Drought, Politics, Muslim Fundamentalists, Islamic Fundamentalists, Fundamentalism, Strikes, Violence, Riots, Civil Unrest, Protests, President, Gaafar Nimeiry, Jafaar Nimeiry, Coup, Trials, Flogging, Islamic Law, Economy, Crisis, Ethiopia"

Citation

MLA
TOM BROKAW, anchor:
This past week Sudan’s many problems have become a crisis. It is suffering from a four year drought and pressures from Marxist Ethiopia next door and Muslim fundamentalists within the country. Bonny Anderson reports tonight that Sudan faces paralysis from organized strikes and violence.

BONNY ANDERSON, reporting:
While the city is quiet, Sudanese soldiers and riot police are patrolling Khartoum, arresting vagrants, students and other people suspected of joining in the riots. More than 3,000 have been detained, among them, Muslim fundamentalists the government claims fueled the protest. Last month President Nimeiry cracked down on Islamic leaders, charging they were planning a coup. Trials are already underway. Those convicted of trying to undermine the government are being sentenced to prison terms or flogging, common punishment under Islamic law. Mobs smashed windows, burned cars, and destroyed several businesses last week when the government announced steep price increases for basic food items and gasoline. Under extreme pressure from the United States and other creditors, President Nimeiry was forced to reduce government subsidies to boost Sudan’s ailing economy. For the people here, who are already battling the effects of the African drought, the economic measures are devastating. Many say they simply can’t afford to pay a third more for bread. Taxi drivers who hold good jobs by Sudanese standards claim that they can’t support their families now that gasoline, already rationed, is more expensive. Many people here say drastic measures must be taken soon if Nimeiry’s government is to ease the unrest and prevent further violence. Bonny Anderson, NBC News, Khartoum.