SYSTEMATIC REFUGEE RAPE

ONGOING GENOCIDE

HOMELESS DUMPING

SKID ROW

MOST VULNERABLE

INTERVENTIONS

HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES

GOVERNMENT

$6 BILLION

DEATH SQUADS

U.S.-BACKED

An estimated three million people have been displaced and more than 200,000 have been killed since 2003. A peace deal was signed May 2006 by the government but by only one of the main rebel groups. The rest refused and the violence has only increased. The head of the UN investigating team, the Nobel Peace laureate Jody Williams, described the international response to the crisis as "pathetic." In September 2004, the World Health Organization estimated there had been 50,000 deaths in Darfur since the beginning of the conflict, an 18-month period, mostly due to starvation. And

Starvation and disease at 70,000; These figures were criticized

considered a short

compiled by the UN indicate between 6000 and 7000

official UN

people have

their homes

camp.

groups

for

needs.

Fund (UNICEF) adviser on violence and sexual exploitation, said she heard dozens of harrowing accounts of

orts of gang rapes – when she visited internally

last week. "Rape is used as a weapon

terrorize entire communities," she said in an

conflict. It's not something that happening as the result of chaos of uncontrollable

the conflict; it's systematic, well planned and orchestrated in a calculation to destroy

order to stop these horrendous crimes, we must seek justice for women, and those who

held accountable." The Sudanese government and its allied janjaweed militias continue

and girls in Darfur. International Criminal Court chief prosecutor Luis Moreno-Ocampo

al-Bashir that "rape is an integral part of the pattern of destruction" in Darfur. In conflicts around the world, rape has been used as an act of genocide. Millions of people are living under daily threat of violence and are dependent on humanitarian aid that is hindered or entirely blocked by ongoing insecurity and endless bureaucratic hurdles.

Since the beginning of the year, 170 aid workers have been abducted and 11 killed. Since January 2008, more than 230,000 civilians have been forced to flee violence, at a rate of nearly 1,000 per day. Many of them have fled to overcrowded

es sought shelter in the desert until clashes subsided. As attacks on humanitarian

incidents of violence against aid workers in the first eight months of 2008 have already

ege Hospital to pay $1.6 million in homeless dumping settlement - L.A. city attorney's

150 mentally ill patients on skid row streets. The hospital denies wrongdoing in what

Hospital diagnosed Steven Davis as suffering from schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and

prescribed him numerous drugs to deal with paranoid delusions that had led to an earlier suicide

than 40 miles north to downtown L.A., where they dropped him off outside the Union Rescue Mission.

south to another shelter, Davis wandered away without ever entering. Davis turned out to be the key

they've investigated to date. In a settlement

said that College Hospital had dumped more

the region's most vulnerable citizens -- in 2007

million in penalties and charitable

The hospital also agreed to a first-of-its-kind

transporting any homeless psychiatric patients

heir facilities to the streets

within an established "Patient Safety Zone," a swath of downtown and south

missions are concentrated. Until now, the city attorney's office had developed cases involving specific patients. But with College

patients from its facilities in Cerritos and Costa Mesa to downtown L.A. "In the city of Los Angeles, we will not stand idly by while

Atty. Rocky Delgadillo. An attorney for College Hospital said the hospital did nothing wrong and

settlement, attorney Glenn Solomon maintains that it broke no laws and that the settlement sets

of the hospital, to discharge each and every patient appropriately." Solomon said details of

ocial-service agencies

heir facilities to the streets