

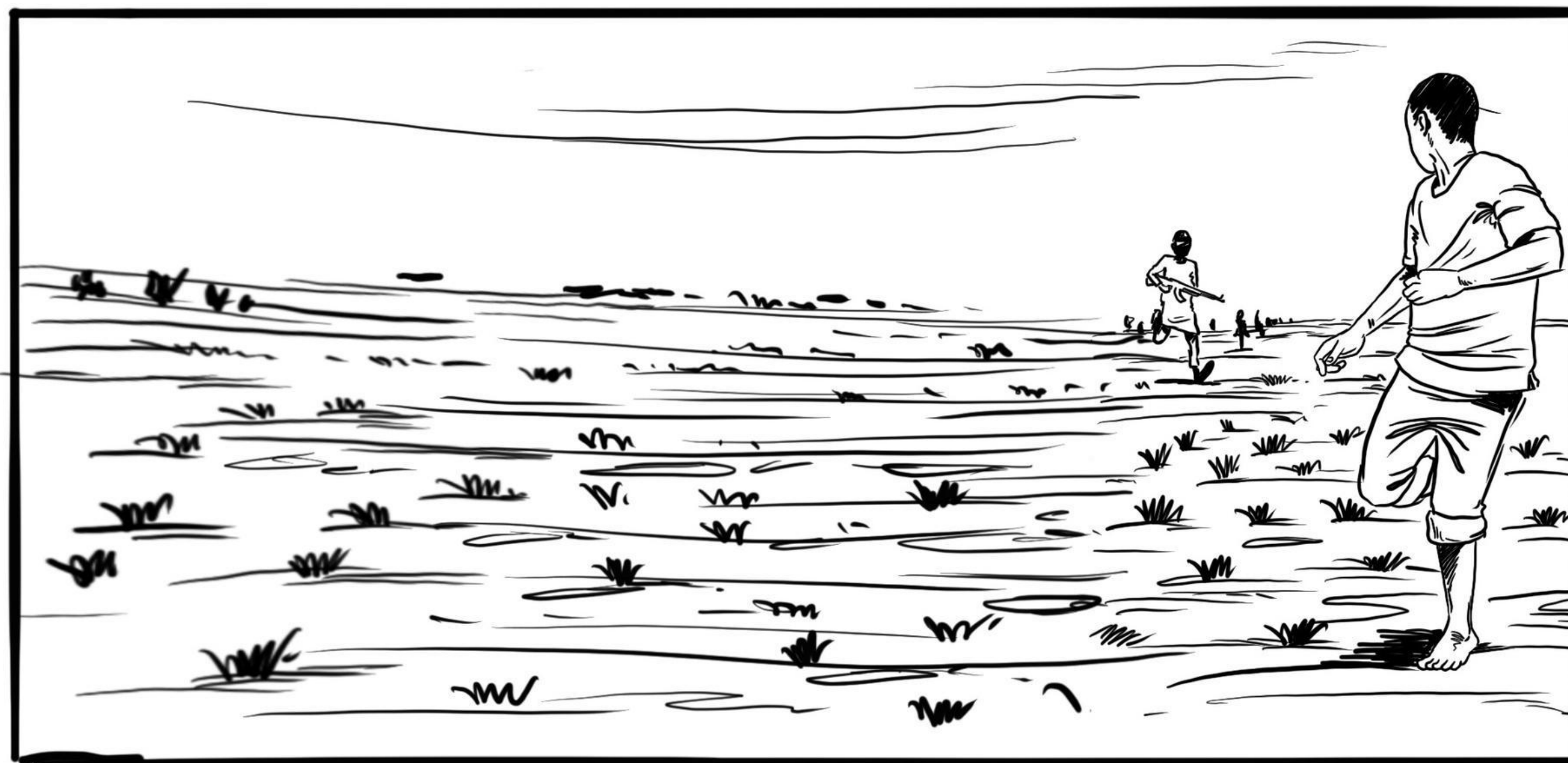
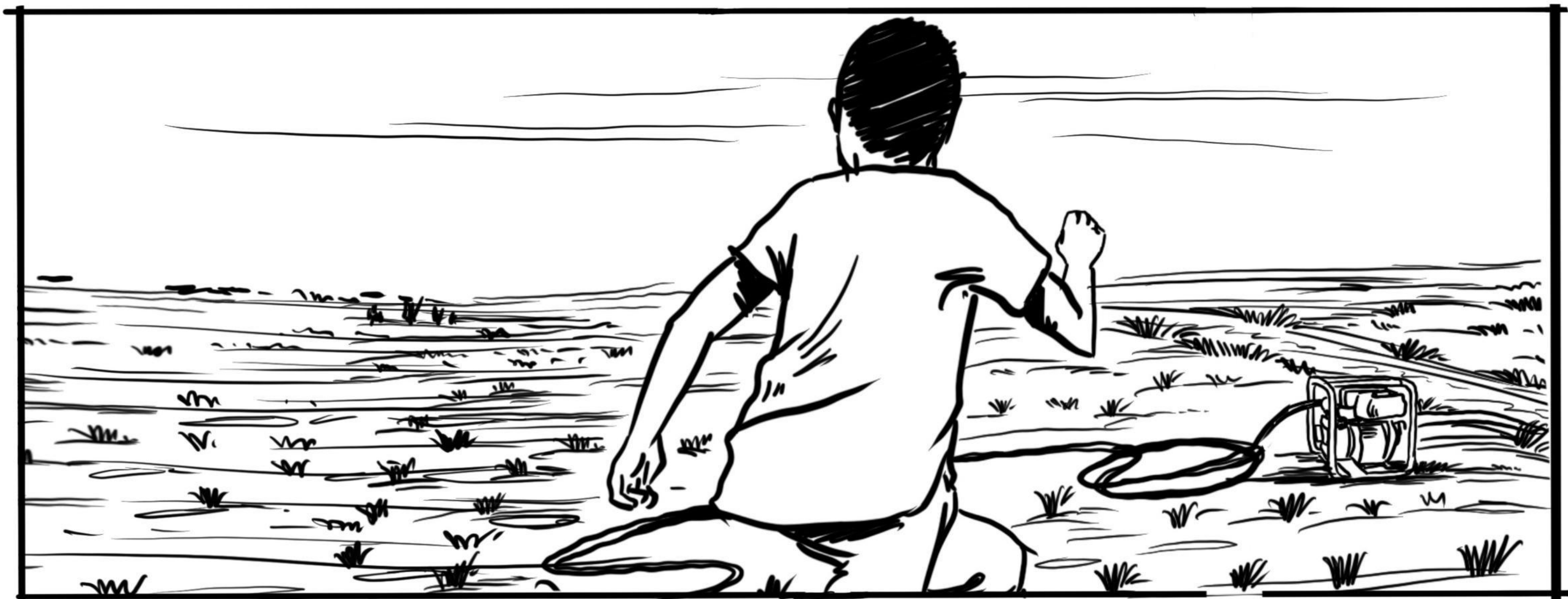


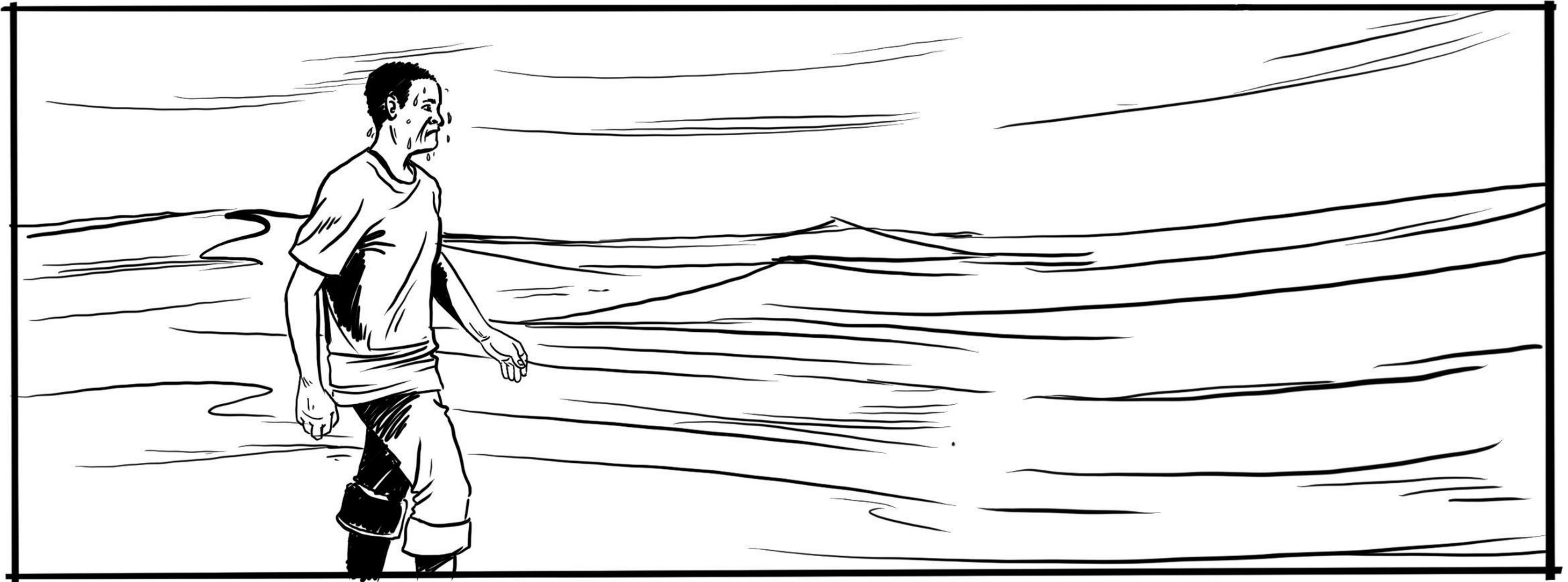
# A Triad Of Nightmares

**A Triad Of Nightmares Shadows Farmers Surviving The Boko Haram Crisis**

Written by Murtala Abdullahi. Converted to comics for HumAngle Interactive by Muhammed Akinyemi.







MANY FARMERS LIKE ABUBAKAR HARUNA STRUGGLE BETWEEN A ROCK AND A HARD PLACE, ESPECIALLY THOSE SUFFERING FROM DISPLACEMENT, CLIMATE VARIABILITY, AND INSECURITY AMID DIFFICULTY ACCESSING AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES AND LIVELIHOOD OPPORTUNITIES. IN JULY, A FOOD CRISIS ASSESSMENT BRIEF ESTIMATED THAT 4.1 MILLION PEOPLE WOULD FACE HUNGER AND SEVERE FOOD INSECURITY THIS LEAN SEASON IN THE NORTHEAST.

WHEN THEY ARE NOT RUNNING FROM TERRORISTS, THEY ARE STRUGGLING TO NAVIGATE THE EFFECTS OF UNPREDICTABLE AND ERRATIC WEATHER CONDITIONS.



THE MANAGER, AHMAD BUKAR, TALKS ABOUT THE TREES THEY PLANTED AND A SAND BARRIER SHIELDING THE FARM FROM EROSION.



PLACES LIKE DALA MALARI USED TO BE A SAFE FARMING COMMUNITIES. BEFORE THE INSURGENCY EXPANDED INTO THE AREA AND BROUGHT NEW CHALLENGES FOR THE FARMERS.

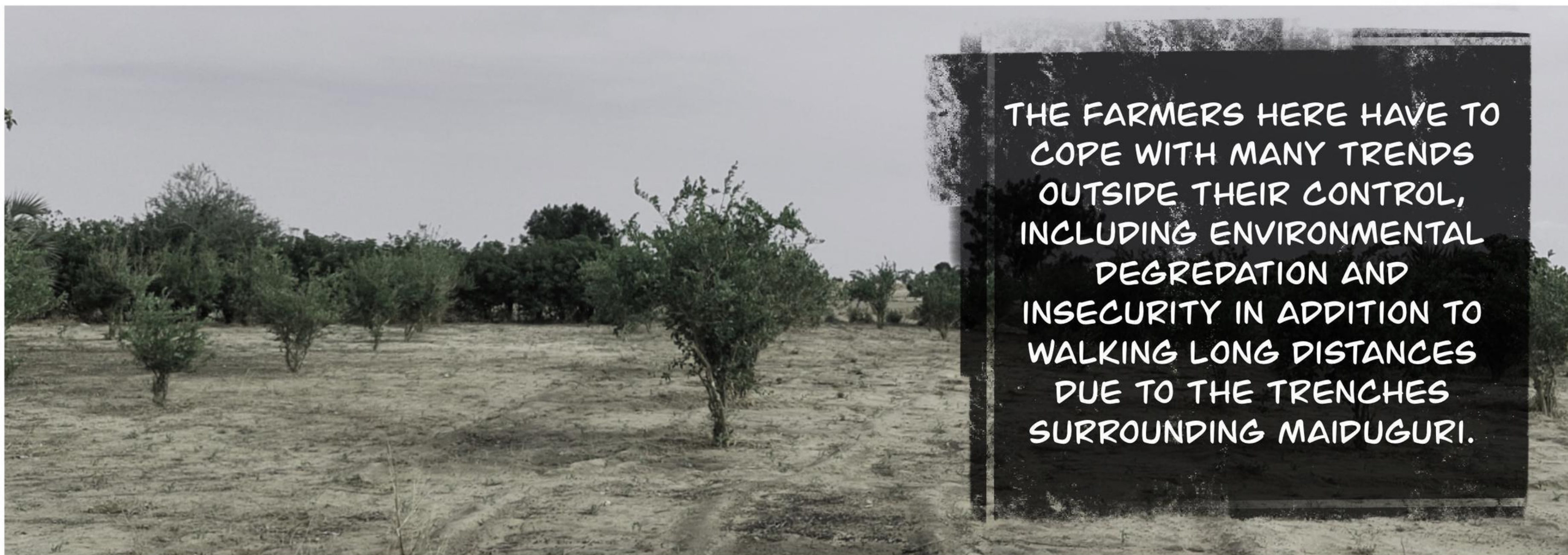
SEVERE EROSION IN THE AREAS IS ALSO VISIBLE AROUND THE PATH OF THE SEASONAL NGADDA RIVER AND A SITE THAT WAS USED FOR SAND MINING. BUT DESPITE THIS, A FARM ADJACENT TO THE WATER BODY HAS ADOPTED NATURE-BASED SAFEGUARDS.





TEXAN AFFORESTATION INITIATIVE, WHICH SEEMS TO BE THE BEST ESCAPE FROM THE UNFORGIVING BRIGHT SUNLIGHT, IS HELPING TO RESTORE AND CONSERVE THE LAND IN THE FARM. UNLIKE MOST OF THE EXPOSED FARMLANDS IN THE AREA WITHOUT VEGETATION, THIS FARM HAS AN ORCHARD CONSISTING OF SHRUBS PLANTED IN ROWS.





AFTER FLEEING HIS HOME AND LIVELIHOOD. IN KIRENOWA NEAR THE SHORES OF LAKE CHAD, HARUNA HAS FOUND A LIVELIHOOD IN DALA MALARI.

THIS IS HARUNA,  
MY NEIGHBOUR ON THE  
FARM AND HE HAS HAD  
AN ENCOUNTER WITH  
BOKO HARAM.





ANOTHER BIG PROBLEM WE HAVE IS MOBILITY CHALLENGES CAUSED BY THE TRENCH. SOMETIMES, A FARMER CAN PRODUCE 10 TO 15 BAGS, AND YOU CAN'T EXPECT HIM TO CARRY IT ON HIS HEAD. HE WOULD REQUIRE A MEANS OF TRANSPORTING IT.

THERE IS ALWAYS AN URGENT NEED TO EVACUATE AT THE END OF THE HARVEST BEFORE THE INSURGENTS MOVE IN TO STEAL.

YOU MUST WORK FAST SO THAT YOU DON'T LOSE EVERYTHING.



THERE IS ALSO A GENERAL RESTRICTION ON MOVEMENT FOR FARMERS BETWEEN 9 A.M. AND 12 P.M. TO WORK. PEOPLE WHO STAY LONGER RISK BEING CHASED BY THE MILITARY OR, WORSE, BOKO HARAM INSURGENTS.



THE SITUATION FOR DISPLACED FARMERS IS DIFFICULT AS THEY GRAPPLE WITH RESOURCE SCARCITY AND THE SECURITY RESTRICTIONS.

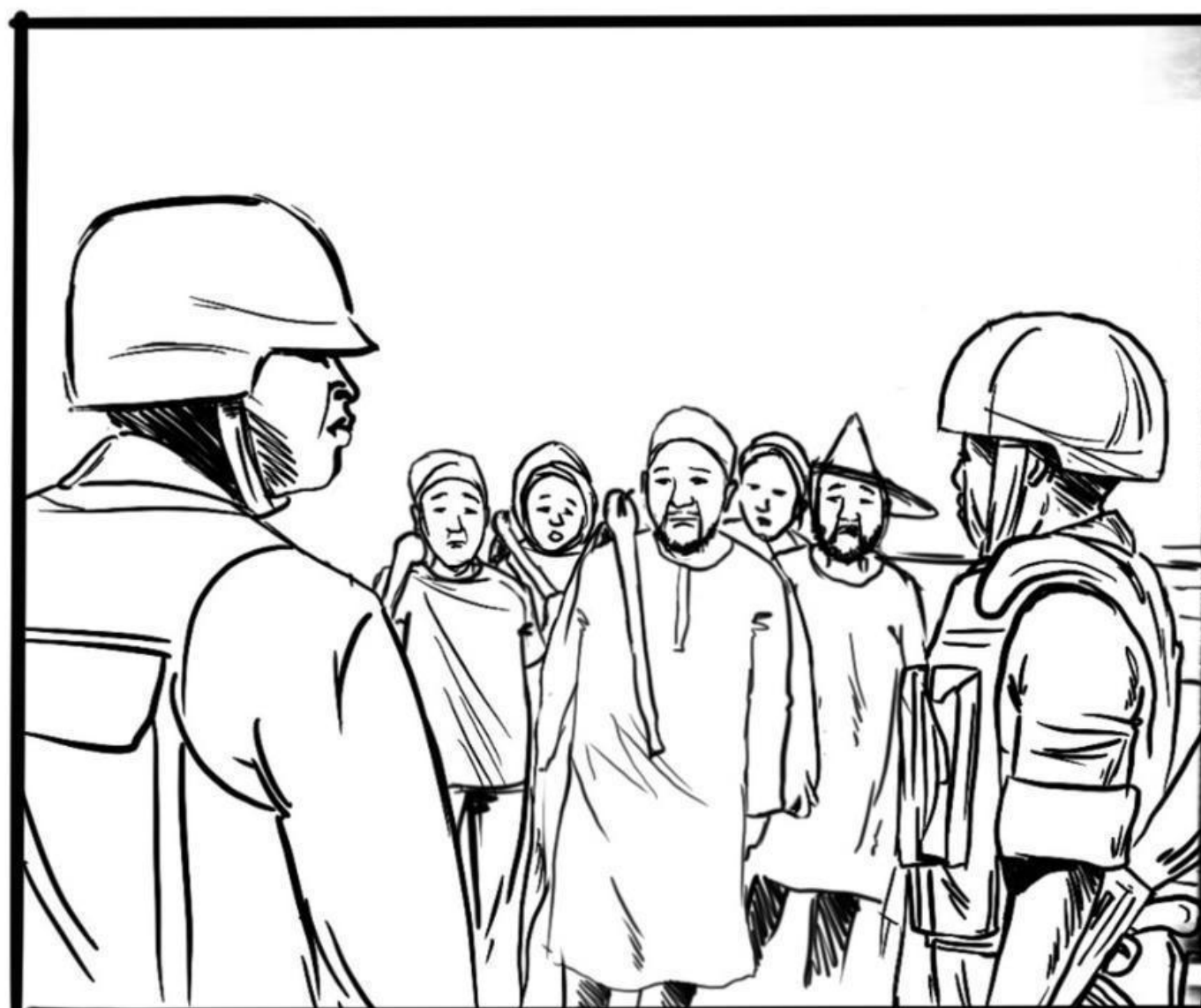


THIS CONTRASTS SHARPLY WITH HIS FORMER LIFE IN THE SIGA BAJA AREA OF BOBOSHE, WHICH WAS ONE OF ABUNDANCE. SAYS THE FATHER OF 14 AND HUSBAND TO TWO WIVES.

LAST YEAR, HE GOT 75 BAGS OF ONION. BUT HIS SORGHUM FARM SUFFERED FROM A REDUCTION IN RAINFALL.

HE ENDED UP WITH 10 BAGS OF SORGHUM, INSTEAD OF THE 30 HE WAS EXPECTING. HIS BEANS WERE ALSO AFFECTED BY A SHORTAGE OF WATER WHICH OCCURRED AFTER THEY HAD STARTED GROWING.

THE THREATS FROM INSURGENTS ALSO CAST A SHADOW ON FARMING ACTIVITIES. THIS MAKES HIM LEAVE THE FARM BETWEEN 1 AND 2 P.M.



THE SOLDIERS SAID WE SHOULD COME TO THE FARMS AT 10 AM FOR PROTECTION, BUT WE CAN'T BECAUSE THE FARMS ARE VERY FAR. WE GO THAT FAR INTO THE FOREST BECAUSE OF LACK OF ACCESS TO LAND. THE BULAMAS PROTESTED THAT 10 A.M. WAS NOT FEASIBLE BECAUSE SOME FARMS WERE FAR, AND THE SOLDIERS REQUESTED WHAT TIME WOULD BE SUITABLE, AND THE GROUP ECHOED 1 AND 2 P.M. THEY THEN LEFT IT AT 2 PM. AND SAID WE SHOULD NOT GO FAR AND GO IN GROUPS."





Credits:

Reporting by Murtala Abdullahi.

Comics story by Muhammed Akinyemi.

Comics design by Akila Jibrin.

Interactive/book design by Damilola Lawal.

Web design by Attahiru Jibrin.

Narration by Hameeda Buhari.

Audio production: Hameeda Buhari.

Photography by Murtala Abdullahi.

<https://humanglemedia.com/a-triad-of-nightmares-shadows-farmers-surviving-the-boko-haram-crisis/>

© HumAngle