

July 5, 2006

## **Congo: Rebels Take Eastern Town in Setback to U.N.**

By REUTERS

Rebels have taken back an eastern town that was captured a month ago in a United Nations-backed offensive, handing the world body and the government a major military setback. The rebel stronghold of Tchei was captured in late May by a joint force of 3,000 Congolese Army soldiers and 1,000 United Nations troops with attack helicopters and armored trucks. Those troops withdrew June 26, and a rebel offensive four days later took the town back, officials said. Congo's first democratic elections in decades are set for July 30.

Copyright 2006

The New York Times Company