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2002. Nine of the 14 UA students graduated from Pima last May.

These men are working toward the future of the country they had to leave.

Most say they will someday go back, and plan to use what they learned to better the situation there. "The most important reason for my education is to give back," John said.

Abraham is studying physiology and pharmacy

because doctors are not easily accessible for the Sudanese.

He said Bor, the largest city in the southern part of Sudan, used to host the worst fighting in the country. "Now there is no fighting but there is hunger and disease. There are no clinics set up. People have to go to the Congo, Uganda, Borador (for medical help).

"People are dying because there are no medical centers. They burned down medical centers (in the war)," Abraham said.

The country is without basic medical supplies, he said. "That's why I need to go to med school.

People are dying of disease that they should not be dying of — malaria, tuberculosis, worms, appendix ruptures."

The Boys are using the educa-

*(Left) Peter Nyok sits in his J.P. Industries office Sept. 7. Nyok helps out with the firm's payroll and other office tasks several times a week. (Top) A group of the Lost Boys gathered outside Grace St. Paul's church Sept. 26 for a portrait.*



tion they gain in the United States to help their country, and are forging a relationship between the two nations.

"I am a man of two countries," Koor said. "We are here for education and to let our politics be known. It looks like the world doesn't know about it. We are here as ambassadors, to build relationship with America and Sudanese."

They want change, and they want to be the ones to make the changes in their country.

"We can do something wonderful. Sudan should not be Third World," Koor said.

John wants to study international law and someday be a diplomat on foreign affairs issues in Sudan. Over the summer, he interned for Rep. Jim Kolbe, R-Ariz., in Washington, D.C. and spoke on the House floor.

"I can apply my skills anywhere. My aim is to give back to the community the skills I have acquired," John said. He was the first Lost Boy to graduate from

Pima and the first Lost Boy in the nation to graduate with honors.

"We are all smart but our commitment and intellect make us succeed," Koor said.

Peter Ayuen said his journey is not over.

"People should know I did not succeed yet; success comes as opportunity. Other friends didn't get opportunity to come here," he said. "I bother myself to go to school because I want something out of it. I know I have this opportunity so I want to use it." □