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A Selected Chronology of the Rwanda Crisis

April 5, 1994-September 30, 1994

In Rwanda during 1994, a campaign of genocide produced the mass murder of up to a million persons, which led to renewed civil war, which produced the largest, swiftest exodus of refugees ever seen, which resulted in a massive humanitarian emergency, which exists to this day. The U.S. Committee for Refugees has compiled this straightforward chronology as a reference source depicting, virtually day by day, the unfolding of one of the greatest tragedies of our time.

This chronology was prepared by Tom Argent, Jeff Drumtra, and Katie Hope, of the U.S. Committee for Refugees, in October 1994.

Selected Chronology of Rwanda Crisis

April 5, 1994 - September 30, 1994

April 5: UN Security Council Resolution 909 extends mandate of UN Assistance Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR) until July 29, 1994. The resolution authorizes UNAMIR to monitor the execution of the Arusha peace accord between the Rwandan government and the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF). Some 2,500 UNAMIR troops from 23 countries are present.

April 6: Plane carrying Rwandan President Juvenal Habyarimana and Burundian President Cyprien Ntaryamira crashes on approach to Kigali airport. Rwandan Defense Ministry states plane shot down by "unidentified elements."

April 7: UPI reports "fierce fighting" in and around Kigali.

Ten Belgian UNAMIR soldiers, attempting to protect Prime Minister Agathe Uwilingiyimana, are tortured and executed by Rwandan soldiers of the Presidential Guard. The Prime Minister is also murdered.

UN spokesman reports that many of those killed are leaders of four political parties opposed to Habyarimana's MRND.

UPI quotes President Clinton as saying "I am...horrified that elements of the Rwandan security forces have sought out and murdered Rwandan officials..."

Washington Post quotes recent radio broadcast warning Tutsis in Rwanda: "You cockroaches must know you are made of flesh! We won't let you kill! We will kill you!"

April 8: UPI reports that Presidential Guard "was rampaging through the city [Kigali] detaining and executing anyone suspected of being a member of the Tutsi minority."

Washington Post cites "persistent reports, from witnesses and diplomats in Kigali, that government ministers were being rounded up by soldiers and some had been executed."

UN Security Council President reports that an "interim government" has formed in Rwanda.

UPI quotes President Clinton as saying, "We're doing everything we possibly can to be on top of the situation there."

April 9: French paratroopers arrive in Kigali to oversee evacuation of French nationals. Two companies of U.S. marines are dispatched to Bujumbura, Burundi to prepare for the evacuation of some 250 Americans in Rwanda.

UN Under Secretary General for peacekeeping expresses concern for safety of UNAMIR forces, saying, "There are worrying signs as of Saturday, because the troops of the RPF are moving toward Kigali."

April 10: Belgian paratroopers arrive in Kigali to oversee evacuation of Belgian nationals.

Most U.S. citizens evacuated by road convoy to Burundi.

U.S. Embassy in Kigali closes.

April 12: UPI estimates at least 10,000 people have been killed in the past six days.

Belgium informs the UN that it intends to withdraw its 400-strong UNAMIR contingent.

April 13: UN Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali outlines options on the future of UNAMIR to the Security Council. Council decides not to withdraw UNAMIR completely, but reaches no final decision.

AP reports more than 100,000 persons have fled Kigali, and 20,000 have been killed.

April 14: AP reports on the arrival of convoy of Belgian troops to evacuate 18 foreigners: "As the convoy arrived, 500 ethnic Tutsi refugees camped in one of the compound's buildings rushed out with their hands up, pleading for help. But they were all left behind....The [compound] had been besieged since Tuesday night by Hutu gangs armed with clubs, machetes, and rifles."

U.S. Committee for Refugees (USCR) Director Roger Winter attributes massacres to "a privileged clique of extremist military and political leaders...ruthlessly determined to block negotiated reforms that would loosen their exclusive grip on power."

U.S. State Department Spokesman Michael McCurry says the Clinton Administration condemns "the slaughter of innocent civilians."

UN Rwanda Emergency Office (UNREO) created in Nairobi.

April 15: Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) says at least 20,000 Rwandans have fled to neighboring countries.

April 16: After discussion, UN Security Council again defers decision on fate of UNAMIR.

April 17: At least 12,000 Rwandans, mostly Tutsis, have gathered at sites guarded by UNAMIR, including the national stadium, the King Faisal Hospital, and the Meridien Hotel.

April 18: AP reports "massacres have spread throughout Rwanda." International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) reports at least 400,000 Rwandans have been driven from their homes and "tens and tens of thousands" are dead. "The situation is catastrophic, not just in Kigali, but in the rest of Rwanda," says an ICRC spokesman.

April 19: *Christian Science Monitor* quotes Canadian UNAMIR commander General Romeo Dallaire as saying the killers are "like demons in human form," and notes radio broadcasts continue to incite killing of Tutsis.

Human Rights Watch says the death toll has risen to 100,000.

April 20: OXFAM releases statement saying the UN force "is not strong enough to protect civilians and does not have a clear mandate to do so." OXFAM appeals to the UN Security Council to "increase the size of the UN force."

AP reports 428 Belgian, 213 Bangladeshi, 144 Ghanaian, and 50 other UNAMIR soldiers have evacuated from Rwanda over the past two days.

UNHCR reports more than 50,000 people have fled Rwanda.

April 21: Security Council Resolution 912 reduces UNAMIR's authorized strength to 270 troops and changes mandate to act as intermediary between forces and assist in aid delivery, but does not authorize UNAMIR to stop killings of civilians.

AP reports two million people have fled their homes.

U.S. State Department's Bureau for Refugee Programs attributes assassinations and "large-scale massacre[s]" to Presidential Guard.

April 22: National Security Advisor Lake calls on leaders of Rwandan military "to do everything in their power to end the violence immediately."

Some 1,000 UNAMIR troops prepare to leave Rwanda following adoption of Security Council Resolution 912.

UNHCR reports more than 100,000 people have fled Rwanda.

April 25: AP quotes UN spokesman in Kigali as saying, "Radio RTLM [Radio-Television des Mille Collines] is calling on militias to step up the killing of civilians."

April 27: UNHCR reports more than 130,000 people have fled Rwanda.

April 28: U.S. Ambassador to Rwanda David Rawson declares "state of disaster."

April 29: UNHCR reports some 250,000 Rwandans have fled to Tanzania over the past 24 hours, the largest and fastest exodus ever witnessed by the agency.

Boutros-Ghali tells Security Council that death toll may have reached 200,000. Boutros-Ghali cites "strong evidence of preparations for further massacres of civilians," and calls for an increase in UN presence that "would require a commitment of human and material resources on a scale which member states have so far proved reluctant to contemplate."

April 30: UN Security Council condemns massacres, but refuses to back Boutros-Ghali's call to increase UN presence.

President Clinton calls on the Rwandan army and the RPF "to agree to an immediate cease-fire and return to negotiations aimed at a lasting peace in their country."

May 1: UNHCR official reports "hundreds of bodies a day" floating down the Kagera River, which empties into Lake Victoria. Many of the bodies have their hands tied behind their backs.

May 2: *New York Times* reports Boutros-Ghali is requesting African heads of state to contribute troops to an all-African peacekeeping force for Rwanda.

USCR urges the United States and the UN to declare that massacres in Rwanda constitute genocide.

May 3: Boutros-Ghali repeats call for African troops that would be financed and equipped by the West, saying a foreign military presence is necessary to "defuse the conflict, to contain the genocide." Fewer than 500 UN troops remain in Rwanda.

May 4: OXFAM reports that death toll may be 500,000.

Assistant Secretary of State George Moose, speaking at House Africa Subcommittee hearing, says U.S. has declared "our intention to provide our fair share of support—logistical, financial, and other—to such a [UN/OAU peacekeeping] mission, should it be mounted."

USCR urges the United States to jam extremist radio broadcasts.

May 5: In Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Humanitarian Affairs John Shattuck says, "[T]he parties must begin serious and meaningful direct talks."

May 6: Two-person USAID/BHR/OFDA team begins assessments of refugee sites in Uganda, Burundi, and Tanzania.

May 9: UNHCR issues three-month emergency appeal for \$56.7 million to cover activities in region. Requirement is later revised upward to \$75 million.

May 10: UN staff circulate recommendation that calls for an international force of 5,500 peacekeeping troops.

In South Africa, Vice President Al Gore says the United States has advanced "several new ideas" on Rwanda, which he says are not "earthshaking," but declines to provide specifics, saying, "the discussion is unfortunately at a delicate stage."

May 11: Boutros-Ghali reports Nigeria, Ghana, and Tanzania have offered to provide troops, and says a force is necessary to "stop the genocide taking place."

New York Times reports the United States opposes a UN Security Council resolution to send 5,500 UN troops to Rwanda, preferring the possibility of establishing a "protection zone" along parts of Rwanda's border. The United States advocates "far smaller numbers [of UN troops] restricted to helping refugees in border areas," *Reuter* reports.

UN High Commissioner for Human Rights José Ayala Lasso arrives in Kigali after meeting RPF commander Maj. Gen. Paul Kagame in Byumba, Rwanda.

May 12: Reuter reports that aid workers say mass killings are still being conducted in areas of the south controlled by the "interim government."

In a letter to OFDA, RPF asks the U.S. government "to provide humanitarian assistance to the displaced people in the areas under its control."

May 13: UN reports at least 88 students were massacred yesterday in the town of Gikongoro, held by the "interim government."

Reuter reports that the word "genocide" has been dropped from a draft Security Council resolution, and has been replaced with the phrase "systematic, widespread and flagrant violations of international humanitarian law."

Belgian Foreign Minister Willy Claes calls on the United States to "play a much more active role" in Rwanda.

May 16: *New York Times* reports the United States "forced the United Nations today to put off plans to send 5,500 troops to Rwanda" in favor of a less ambitious plan that would initially insert only 850 UN troops, with up to 5,500 authorized for later.

Time magazine quotes U.S. Ambassador to Rwanda David Rawson as saying, "We have got to hope that these people will understand that they are brothers."

May 17: UN Security Council Resolution 918 authorizes UNAMIR with troop strength of up to 5,500. Initially, only an additional 500 Ghanaians and 175 military observers will be inserted, pending Council approval of further study on future deployments requested of Boutros-Ghali. The resolution expands UNAMIR's mandate to include the security and protection of civilians. AP reports the Clinton Administration "reluctantly supported the resolution under pressure from other Security Council members anxious to act."

UNHCR reports that, for the first time, it has received accusations of RPF involvement in torture and massacres.

May 18: RPF denies accusations by UNHCR officials in Tanzania that it has engaged in torture and massacres.

May 19: Ghanaian President Jerry Rawlings says the United States must provide logistical and material support in the deployment of African troops, saying the United States "is the one country with the resources and capability" to do so.

May 22: RPF captures Kigali airport.

May 25: In New York, Boutros-Ghali declares that he, the UN, and the international community as a whole have failed in Rwanda. "It is genocide which has been committed in Rwanda and more than 200,000 people have been killed [but] the international community is still discussing what ought to be done," he says.

UN Human Rights Commission adopts resolution condemning massacres and saying it believes "genocidal acts may have occurred." Resolution also call on Boutros-Ghali to appoint a Special Rapporteur to investigate and document human rights violations in Rwanda.

According to the *New York Times*, the United States has indicated that it may lend 50 armored personnel carriers to UNAMIR.

Reuter reports Ethiopia and Senegal, joining Ghana, have agreed in writing to send some 800 troops each.

OFDA dispatches Disaster Assessment Response Team (DART) to region.

- May 27: AP reports tens of thousands of Rwandans, including soldiers of the Rwandan army, fleeing south from Kigali.
- May 31: A Senegalese UNAMIR officer is killed in an RPF mortar attack, the second UNAMIR fatality attributed to RPF forces.
- June 1: UNAMIR commander Dallaire appeals to the United States to send armored personnel carriers and other military equipment to help evacuate trapped civilians. Reuter reports Dallaire briefed an envoy from President Clinton in Nairobi on UNAMIR's needs and was told his request "would be taken to the highest authority."
- June 2: Reuter reports aid groups caution that "a horde of Biblical proportions is swarming south to flee advancing rebels," and that if those fleeing enter Zaire or Burundi "aid workers will be barely prepared to feed or shelter them."

AP reports the United States will send 50 armored personnel carriers to UNAMIR.

- June 6: UNAMIR commander Dallaire reports that large numbers of Rwandans are expected to flee the country in the near future, and says that two million is a "reasonable [planning] figure."

AP reports that African countries have so far volunteered 3,500 of the 4,000 infantry troops the UN wants to send to Rwanda, but that engineering and communications staff are in short supply.

- June 8: UN Security Council Resolution 925 endorses Boutros-Ghali's proposals for deploying the remainder of UNAMIR's authorized troops, and extends UNAMIR mandate until December 9, 1994.

Government of Uganda reports that bodies are no longer entering Lake Victoria from the Kagera River, and that fewer bodies are washing up on the river's shores.

RPF soldiers kill 13 Catholic clerics. Later, RPF official acknowledges that "misguided" RPF soldiers are responsible. It is the first confirmed massacre by RPF forces.

- June 9: OXFAM official states, "During the past months of slaughter, the United States has been

the key player in halting action on Rwanda, creating a series of excuses and inventing problems that do not exist."

June 10: *New York Times* reports that the Clinton Administration has instructed its spokespersons not to use the word "genocide" in describing the killings in Rwanda, but instead to say "acts of genocide may have occurred." The *Times* reports the Administration is concerned that if it acknowledges that genocide is occurring, it would be expected to take action to prevent it. U.S. Ambassador to Rwanda David Rawson says, "As a responsible government, you don't just go around hollering 'genocide.' You say that acts of genocide may have occurred and they need to be investigated," according to the *Times* report.

UN Human Rights Commission Special Rapporteur Bacre Waly Ndiaye begins visit to Rwanda.

June 11: Secretary of State Warren Christopher, responding to criticism over the Administration's refusal to label the Rwanda massacres as "genocide," states, "If there is any particular magic in calling it genocide, I have no hesitancy in saying that."

June 13: Uruguayan UNAMIR officer is killed in an RPF rocket-propelled grenade attack, the third UNAMIR fatality attributed to RPF forces.

June 14: Approximately 60 Tutsi boys are abducted from the Sainte Famille church complex and murdered by Hutu militias.

In Tunisia, the RPF and Rwandan army reportedly agree to a cease-fire. The agreement seems to have no effect on events in Rwanda.

June 15: French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe indicates that France and its African allies are prepared to intervene militarily in Rwanda if massacres continue.

At Benaco refugee camp in Tanzania, supporters of a man suspected of committing atrocities in Rwanda riot, forcing relief workers to evacuate.

June 16: RPF spokesman James Rwengo, citing past French support for the Rwandan government, says the French "should not participate in any force, even a United Nations one, much less carry out any action on their own."

All members of Senate Foreign Relations Committee sign letter to President Clinton urging a greater U.S. response to the genocide in Rwanda.

June 17: *Washington Post* reports that Administration officials now state that the 1948 Genocide Convention merely "enables" governments that detect genocide to act to stop it, but does not require them to do so.

Washington Post reports Administration officials reject criticism that the delivery of armored vehicles to UNAMIR has taken too long, saying that the elapsed time from request to delivery will be one month, less than normal in such transactions.

June 19: Italian Defense Minister Cesare Previti says Italy will not take part in any French-led intervention in Rwanda.

June 20: Following the evacuation of hundreds of mostly Tutsi people from the surrounded Sainte Famille compound in Kigali, UNAMIR spokesman Major Jean-Guy Plante states, "We can only do what we can do. There are people in desperate situations all over Kigali, but we can only rescue people when both sides let us, and we have only so many trucks." AP reports nearly 2,000 people were left behind.

Boutros-Ghali urges Security Council to accept France's offer of intervention and says French troops should stay in Rwanda for three months, until UNAMIR reinforcements arrive. Boutros-Ghali says some 4,600 troops have been offered by nine countries.

State Department spokesman Mike McCurry tells reporters the United States "is supportive of their [French] efforts to muster international support for an early deployment of a UN force that would help put an end to the atrocities in Rwanda."

June 21: More than twenty French aid organizations speak out against the French plan to intervene militarily in Rwanda.

Belgian Foreign Minister Willy Claes says, "Someone must take the initiative to save what is left to save. France took the initiative and I don't know any other candidates."

June 22: The UN Security Council, in a vote of 10 to 0 with 5 abstentions, approves Resolution 929 authorizing French military intervention in Rwanda. The resolution authorizes French troops to use "all necessary means" to achieve the humanitarian objectives identified in Resolution 925, namely, contributing to the security and protection of civilians and providing security and support for the distribution of relief supplies. The French intervention is authorized for up to two months.

Given RPF opposition to the French intervention, some 42 French-speaking UN military observers from Togo, Congo, and Senegal are evacuated from Rwanda as a precautionary move.

OFDA reports that, to date, 10,700 bodies have been retrieved from Lake Victoria and buried.

June 23: The first of 47 U.S. armored personnel carriers leased to the UN arrive in Entebbe, Uganda from Germany.

First French troops cross into Rwanda on assessment missions from Zaire. Reuter reports that Radio RTLM says the French are coming to fight on the side of the interim government and are bringing in new weapons.

June 24: AP reports that relief groups allege that arms are moving through Goma, Zaire into "interim government"-held border areas of Rwanda.

June 27: To date, more than 1,300 French troops have arrived in Goma and Bukavu, Zaire. A total of 2,500 are expected.

USCR calls on UN to mandate French and UN troops to detain massacre leaders.

June 28: UN Special Rapporteur issues report on Rwanda. Report characterizes massacres as "genocide."

Reuter reports that UNESCO has offered \$20,000 to help set up a humanitarian radio station in Rwanda that would counter the broadcasts of Hutu extremists.

UNAMIR spokesman reports that only five U.S. M-113 armored personnel carriers have arrived in Entebbe, Uganda.

July 1: Security Council Resolution 935 requests establishment of Commission of Experts to analyze evidence of grave violations of humanitarian law and possible acts of genocide in Rwanda.

OFDA DART field office to respond to crisis is established in Bujumbura, Burundi.

New York Times, reporting on French troops providing protection to a small group of Tutsi survivors in the southwest, quotes one French noncommissioned officer as saying, "This is not what we were led to believe. We were told that Tutsi were killing Hutu, and now this." Another French soldier tells the *Times*, "If we leave, they [the Tutsis] will be dead by tonight."

Washington Post reports that French soldiers had believed Hutu statements that Tutsis in the southwest were well-armed rebels. "We were manipulated," one French officer told the *Post*. "[W]e have not a single wounded Hutu here, just massacred Tutsis," he said.

July 4: RPF forces take control of Kigali.

July 5: French military authorities report that more than 2,300 French soldiers and marines and 300 Senegalese soldiers are in Zaire or western Rwanda and that France is considering setting up a "safe zone" in the southwest.

RPF says that it intends to appoint Faustin Twagiramungu, a Hutu and member of moderate MDR party, to head a new broad-based government.

July 6: Belgian Foreign Ministry spokesman says that Belgium is "completely ready to work with this [new] government."

July 7: Faustin Twagiramungu tells Reuters Television, "I appeal to the big powers, especially the United States, to assume completely their responsibilities and send soldiers to Rwanda and not say that Africans should do it alone."

July 8: The UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) reports that Rwanda needs more than one million tons of food aid this year to avert large-scale famine.

UNAMIR flights to Kigali airport resume.

July 12: UNHCR reports as many as 500,000 Rwandan Hutus are moving toward the northwestern town of Gisenyi, on the border with Zaire, fleeing an RPF advance.

Speaking in a personal capacity, Bacre Waly Ndiaye, UN Special Rapporteur for Rwanda, states, "It seems to me quite difficult to admit that in this century you can have a massacre of up to half a million people with everyone watching. I think it's a very, very sad event."

July 13: Ugandan officials report that 16,000 Rwandan refugees who had fled to Uganda in 1959 had returned to Rwanda following the fall of Kigali to RPF forces.

July 14: UNHCR reports that more than 100,000 Rwandan refugees have arrived in Goma, Zaire. UN Rwanda Emergency Office spokesman says 800,000 more are expected within two days. Officials report there are 1,500 tons of food in Goma, enough to feed 150,000 people for one month.

Reuter quotes Rwandan soldier as saying, "The Inkontanyi [rebels] are taking positions around Gisenyi and we believe they will start shelling it as soon as the civilians have emptied the town."

Reuter reports mobile radio station still operating from somewhere near Gisenyi on border with Zaire.

French Foreign Ministry spokesman says that remnants of the fleeing Rwandan "interim government" would not be welcome in the French zone in southwestern Rwanda.

Prime Minister-designate Faustin Twagiramungu returns to Kigali from exile in Belgium.

July 15: Reuter reports that extremist radio broadcasts are encouraging Rwandan Hutus to flee into Zaire, and that truckloads of Rwandan soldiers are also entering Zaire. UN officials estimate refugees are entering Zaire at a rate of 12,000 per hour.

Thirteen weeks after large-scale massacres began in Rwanda, President Clinton orders the closure of the Rwandan embassy in Washington, D.C. and announces that U.S. no longer recognizes Rwanda's ousted government. In a statement, President Clinton says, "The United States cannot allow representatives of a regime that supports genocidal massacres to remain on our soil." President also authorizes \$19 million drawdown from Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance (ERMA) fund to assist in humanitarian operation in region.

French officials say that French forces in Rwanda will detain members of the "interim government" if they are found in the French zone.

July 16: Tutsi refugees in Zaire who had fled the massacres in Rwanda report that grenades are thrown over the barbed wire surrounding their compound. The refugees believe Hutu extremists carried out the attack.

July 17: Journalists report that two mortar shells fall on the Zairean side of the border near Goma, killing several people. Scores of refugees are trampled to death as they flee from Gisenyi to Goma.

July 18: The International Committee of the Red Cross reports that up to 100,000 Rwandans have left the French zone and entered Zaire in the past 24 hours. Reuter reports that an additional 50,000 Rwandans have fled to Burundi, bringing the total there to 140,000.

U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) Administrator J. Brian Atwood arrives in Goma, Zaire and says the United States is pledging an additional \$31 million in aid.

UNHCR reports a surge of refugee arrivals in Zaire following radio broadcasts that state "[the RPF] are going to come kill you." Reportedly, refugees are moving toward Uvira, Zaire.

July 19: French forces distribute leaflets urging people to stay in Rwanda and promising food supplies.

UNHCR reports that radio broadcasts are continuing. A spokesman for the French aid organization AICF says the radio "has prompted general hysteria among people who believe only in their leaders, who have made devils of the Rwanda Patriotic Front. People are scared out of their wits."

USAID Administrator Atwood says, "The Rwandan military is everywhere [in Goma, Zaire]....They are planning to invade the country."

The first case of cholera is reported in refugee camps near Goma.

Rwanda's Ambassador to the UN under the ousted regime relinquishes his seat in the UN Security Council.

July 20: Rwandan soldiers and civilians loot 200 tons of food and medicine from a Swedish aid station in the town of Cyangugu near the border with Zaire.

Washington Post reports that Rwandan soldiers in Zaire prevent WFP from delivering 20 tons of beans to more than 30,000 refugees in Mugunga.

July 21: New government of Rwanda is installed, headed by President Pasteur Bizimungu, a Hutu who formerly worked as RPF representative in Brussels.

July 22: UN issues consolidated interagency appeal for \$434 million to cover operations in the region through December.

United States announces that it will employ its military to bolster humanitarian and logistical aid to the relief effort. U.S. officials say they will upgrade the airport in Goma, Zaire, manage an "air head" in Entebbe, Uganda that will become the focal point of the relief effort, and provide food, medical, and other relief aid.

July 24: U.S. Ambassador Rawson returns to Kigali to hold discussions with newly formed government.

U.S. troops begin to arrive in region to facilitate relief operation.

Government of Zaire officially re-opens border with Rwanda.

July 25: OFDA reports "relief activities in...[southwest Rwanda] have been limited." Some 2 million persons, 1.3 million of them displaced, are believed present in the southwest.

OFDA reports at least 3,000 Rwandans are arriving daily in Tanzania, and some 120,000 Rwandans have fled to Burundi in the past week.

July 28: UNHCR releases new figures for Rwandan refugees: 1.4 million in Zaire, 353,000 in Burundi, and 241,000 in Tanzania.

Christian Science Monitor reports two MRND members turn down positions with the new government.

AP reports two killings in Zairean refugee camps by exiled soldiers and militia.

Reuter reports that MSF says 300 water trucks are required to deliver water to refugees in Goma refugees, but only 70 are available.

July 29: U.S. government announces official recognition of new Rwandan government.

July 30: President Clinton asks Congress for an additional \$320 million in assistance for the region.

July 31: Two hundred U.S. troops deploy in Kigali to take part in relief operation.

Aug. 1: Suspected cases of meningitis reported in Goma region; UNHCR prepares vaccination campaign.

Aug. 2: Pledging conference in Geneva produces \$137 million toward UN appeal of \$434 million.

UNHCR says at least 22,000 refugees in Goma have died, according to Reuter, while UNICEF estimates 50,000 deaths, according to AP.

British military medical teams arrive in Rwanda.

AP reports a UNHCR shortfall of \$65 million for operations in the region.

Aug. 3: In letter to the President of the UN Security Council, Boutros-Ghali states, "Even though two and a half months have passed since the adoption of resolution 918 (1994) of 17 May 1994, UNAMIR is as far from attaining the authorized troop strength as it was at the time of the adoption of the resolution." Boutros-Ghali adds, "A major complicating factor has been the inordinate time required to negotiate the offers of equipment from some countries, since the offers are subject to payment by the United Nations."

Aug. 4: In testimony before House Defense Subcommittee, U.S. Secretary of Defense William Perry reiterates that "U.S. military personnel are not part of a UN peacekeeping operation."

78 British and 200 more Canadian troops have arrived in Rwanda.

MSF estimates up to 2,500 deaths per day in Goma area refugee camps, according to Reuter.

Rwandan refugees kill Zairean soldier in a Goma refugee camp.

Reuter reports that landmines have killed dozens of returnees to Rwanda.

Aug. 5: France announces it has given the UN evidence of genocide.

UNHCR estimates that 100,000 Hutus have returned to Rwanda, but 2.7 million Rwandan refugees remain outside the country. Reuter reports that UNHCR explains its cautions about repatriation: "Although the government has given very good assurances and made guarantees, it is not clear at all that the government itself is in a position to implement all of its guarantees in every far-flung corner of Rwanda."

UNHCR estimates death rate in Goma camps has fallen to about 500 per day, according to Reuter report.

Zairean soldiers kill a Rwandan refugee, the third in three days, reports Reuter. UNHCR suspends deliveries to Katale camp because of increased tension.

Aug. 6: OFDA DART field office established in Kigali.

Aug. 7: Since July 18, more than 48,000 bodies have been collected from refugee camps in the Goma region. Epidemiologists from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control put the total number of deaths at 55,000 to 80,000, with the most likely figure at about 60,000. At the height of the epidemics, the death rate for refugees in the Goma region was between 34 and 54 per 10,000 per day. The lower estimate is twice the death rate seen in Baidoa, Somalia in 1992. During the first two weeks of the influx, 7 percent to 9 percent of all refugees present died.

Aug. 8: UNHCR reports Zaireans are demanding an "entrance fee" from refugees trying to enter Goma.

New Rwandan Prime Minister Faustin Twagiramungu says the ousted government fled with all Rwanda's foreign and domestic exchange reserves, reports Reuter. Twagiramungu asserts that any vengeance killing of returning Hutus will be punished. *The New York Times* reports that Rwanda's new government agrees to an international war crimes tribunal to judge those accused of genocide.

MSF says that death toll of up to 80,000 in Goma's refugee camps is the highest number ever recorded, Reuter reports.

AP reports that UNHCR urges French troops to stay in southwestern Rwanda.

- Aug. 10: At press briefing, Assistant Secretary of State George Moose says the "violence that has taken place in Rwanda over the last four months has greatly exacerbated an already tense political situation in Burundi." Moose calls for the arrest, detention, and prosecution of those directing violence in refugee camps in Zaire.
- Aug. 11: Plume of ash, water, and lava reported emanating from volcano in Goma region.
- Aug. 12: Thousands of displaced persons in southwest Rwanda begin to flee toward Zaire in advance of the August 22 scheduled departure of French forces.
- Aug. 14: International Organization for Migration (IOM) launches repatriation program for Rwandan refugees in Zaire. IOM reports that RPF troops are questioning and sometimes harassing returnees.

Water system operating in Goma region now able to produce 3.2 million liters of clean water daily, far short of the estimated 12 million liter daily requirement.

- Aug. 15: UNREO reports militias blocking the eastward movement of people near Kibuye and inciting people to flee to southwest. Similar intimidations reported near Gikongoro.

IOM cancels indefinitely repatriation program from Mugunga camp (near Goma) due to intimidation by forces loyal to former government.

UNREO reports 1,624 UNAMIR troops in Rwanda.

UNHCR says that four refugees are killed in last two days in Goma as security in the refugee camps deteriorates. UN says it receives almost daily reports of Rwandan soldiers "stirring up trouble" in the camps, reports Reuter.

- Aug. 16: About 100 bandits steal 20 tons of food from a distribution point in Katale camp near Goma.

About 100 Ethiopian peacekeeping troops arrive in Rwanda.

Ministers of new Rwanda government hold open forum in Gikongoro. About 5,000 people attend.

- Aug. 17: Aid workers report 80 confirmed cases of meningitis in Kibumba camp near Goma. Another 80 cases are suspected; 30 people have died so far from the outbreak.

French troops leave Gikongoro as first phase of their withdrawal from southwest Rwanda.

International organizations report "considerable coercion" by the former government, army, and militia to get Rwandans to flee to Zaire, according to Reuter.

Reuter reports 10,000 Hutus leave Gikongoro for the Zairian border, but most of the 500,000 others present remain in the region.

- Aug. 18: OFDA reports "extremist-controlled radio continues to broadcast throughout the region, urging the population to flee out of Rwanda." OFDA also reports "tensions appear to be rising throughout the [Zairian] camps."

For the first time, soap is distributed in Zaire refugee camps.

- Aug. 19: French President and Prime Minister say all French forces will be out of Rwanda by the evening of August 21.

U.S. State Department cites letter from new Rwandan Justice Minister Nkubito promising that the Rwandan government will "make every effort to prevent summary executions and other acts of vigilante justice, and to arrest those who commit acts of revenge."

- Aug. 20: Zaire closes border bridge crossing from Rwanda into Bukavu. An estimated 40,000 Rwandans are waiting on the hills above the bridge on the Rwandan side.

- Aug. 21: French troops pull out of Rwanda.

- Aug. 23: UN creates "Commission of Experts" to collect evidence of genocide in Rwanda.

Reuter reports that UN has not seen mass flight of refugees from southwest Rwanda, despite French withdrawal.

AP reports that last U.S. troops are to leave Goma by August 28.

Rwanda's Prime Minister warns of a possible regional war if refugees do not repatriate from Zaire, according to Reuter.

UN official says that more than one million persons may have been murdered in Rwanda.

- Aug. 24: The UN charges RPF with "occasions of retributational killings," but says such abuses are "not a general pattern," Reuter reports. The RPF detains 60 of its troops suspected of taking part.

The UN appeals to Western governments for 100 forensic experts and 100 lawyers to investigate "possible genocide," reports Reuter.

- Aug. 25: General Kagame and Prime Minister Twagiramungu make speeches in Ruhengeri admonishing the population not to appeal to soldiers to kill or otherwise abuse people whom they presume to be guilty, Human Rights Watch/Africa reports.

- Aug. 26: U.S. BHR/OFDA states there is "still no significant outflow [of refugees] from Goma back to Rwanda, and says the pressure to remain is still strong."

Reuter reports Hutu refugees in Zaire launch a "witch hunt" for suspected RPF spies.

Reuter also reports hostility in Goma refugee camps toward the West, regarded as having sided with the Tutsi-dominated RPF. UNHCR spokesman describes the refugee camps as a "virtual war zone."

UN spokesman reports that Zairean authorities are assisting former Rwandan government forces in training camp near Bukavu, according to Reuter. Zairean military strongman Mobutu Sese Seko promises to disarm RPF foes, but political analysts are not convinced.

Aug. 28: DART/Kigali field officers return from two-day assessment of northwest Rwanda and report that "the situation appears stable."

UNICEF and the new government of Rwanda estimate up to 200,000 unaccompanied minors in Rwanda, AP reports.

Five people are killed in Goma refugee camps. Refugees trying to leave camps are systematically accused of being spies and are often lynched by suspicious crowds, urged on by militiamen. UNHCR has abandoned many repatriation plans because of this hostility, Reuter reports.

More reports surface that Zaireans are helping 20,000 former Rwandan government troops regroup and train with a goal of launching counterattack on Rwanda, says Reuter.

Aug. 29: UN-sponsored talks between Zaire and Rwanda to encourage refugee repatriation to Rwanda continue. Rwanda wants Zaire to disarm former Rwandan government troops.

Five people are killed in violent incidents in Goma refugee camps, one of them a Hutu man beaten to death by a mob after he argued in favor of repatriation, reports Reuter.

Aug. 30: BHR/OFDA reports "rumors of continued *Interahamwe* activity between Gikongoro and Butare" and that UNHCR has requested French military to remain in Goma past scheduled departure date of September 5.

UNHCR estimates that some 215,000 Rwandan refugees have repatriated, including 100,000 from Uganda, 40,000 from Burundi, and 75,000 from Zaire. Most of the repatriations from Uganda and Burundi are of ethnic Tutsi, many of whom had lived in exile for decades.

Aug. 31: Rwanda's new ambassador to the UN, Bakuramutsa Manzi, takes his seat in the Security Council, Reuter reports.

Sept. 1: IOM begins moving some 60,000 persons from Kibumba refugee camp in Zaire to Kahindo camp, a location considered more suitable for the approaching rainy season.

Zaire officials say they hope all 1.2 million Rwandan refugees leave by October 1, and promise to stop Hutu militiamen terrorizing refugees and to disarm and encamp members of the former Rwandan government army, some 28,000 of whom are in Zaire, reports Reuter.

Sept. 2: Continuing U.S. military drawdown in Kigali leaves only 2 or 3 U.S. military personnel there (plus security contingent) on a 24-hour basis.

Sept. 6: The first 150 RPF troops enter the UN-protected "safe zone" in the southwest and patrol with UNAMIR forces, reports Reuter. RPF expects to gain full control of the zone in a month, AP reports. UN estimates 480,000 displaced people are in the zone, down from earlier estimates of 1.2 million.

Zairean government officials authorize arrest of Hutu militiamen who are preventing Rwandan refugees from returning home. Zairean authorities say they will provide refugees with armed escorts to the border. Zairean official asks for international help in disarming Rwandan soldiers.

New camp for soldiers of the former Rwandan regime is prepared in Zaire.

Estimates of the number of killings inside Rwanda by RPF soldiers or bandits range from dozens to hundreds since July, according to MSF lawyer cited in AP report. UN special representative to Rwanda says he finds "no evidence of systematic reprisals." RPF officials have reportedly arrested 64 soldiers and executed two for committing crimes.

Sept. 7: Relief agencies in Rwanda report new government has established a "road usage tax" of \$152 on commercial trucks carrying relief supplies into Rwanda. Many refuse to pay.

Sept. 8: UN special envoy to Rwanda and RPF officers say troops of Rwanda's ousted government are preparing to return to war and have already made incursions to harass and kill civilians, according to news reports.

Sept. 10: For fifteenth consecutive day, UNREO reports that refugees repatriating to Rwanda outnumber refugees fleeing to Zaire at Bukavu-Cyangugu border crossing.

In Kigali, William Clarence takes over direction of UN Human Rights Office. Clarence will report to UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Jose Ayala Lasso.

Sept. 11: UNAMIR reports 210 RPF troops in Gikongoro, 180 in Cyangugu, and 100 in Kibuye. UNREO reports their presence "has not raised tension," but notes that their visible presence on the border with Zaire "could help explain the decrease in refugees returning to Rwanda."

Sept. 12: UNREO estimates that between 1,000 and 1,500 refugees return spontaneously from Goma to Rwanda every day.

Sept. 13: Diplomats and NGOs debate reasons for recent resignation of Karen Kenny, UN's former primary human rights worker in Rwanda. Colleagues say she failed to renew her contract because of frustration and lack of support for her mission, according to Reuter. UN officials say her contract had expired. Save the Children says, "The UN's human rights mission in Rwanda is a shambles whose poor organization threatens the whole process of peace, justice and political reconciliation."

Daily death rate among refugees in Goma, Zaire is 2.4 deaths per 10,000 population, according to weekly USAID report.

Japan plans to send 480 troops to Zaire and other countries bordering Rwanda, reports Reuter.

Some 4,000 UN peacekeepers are in Rwanda, 1,500 fewer than the number that were supposed to be deployed by July, Reuter reports.

- Sept. 14 Reuter reports that Rwanda's new government is in financial crisis. The World Bank grants \$20 million to the UN for Rwanda. Rwandan officials seek international loans to pay salaries of administrators and soldiers to rebuild the country. Rural Rwandan doctors and teachers are migrating to Kigali to find paying jobs, Reuter reports.

Eighty-six aid agencies are operating in Rwanda.

U.S. House of Representatives approves resolution by voice vote calling for U.S. military withdrawal from Rwanda by Oct. 7.

- Sept. 15: UNHCR estimates 450,000 Rwandan refugees have repatriated. An estimated 200,000 have returned from Zaire, 120,000 from Burundi, and 120,000 from Uganda. Returnees include persons who fled Rwanda this year, as well as Rwandan Tutsi who had lived in exile for decades.

UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Jose Ayala Lasso, launches \$10.5 million appeal to fund 147 human rights monitors, investigators, prosecutors, forensic experts, and other human rights officers in Rwanda.

- Sept. 16: Some aid agencies are reportedly planning to leave Zairian camps dominated by soldiers of ousted Rwandan government. "We don't want to offer our services to people planning to go back to war," aid worker tells Reuter.

UN spokesperson suggests that perhaps UN troops could be used to disarm exiled soldiers.

Rwandan President Pasteur Bizimungu says up to 70 cases of revenge attacks by the RPF have been reported.

Zaire agrees to establish a joint working commission with the government, UNAMIR and UN aid agencies to study problems of repatriation, according to Reuter.

More than 2 million Rwandans are internally displaced in approximately 100 camps, according to new UNAMIR study.

\$250 million World Bank loan to Rwanda is delayed due to Rwanda's outstanding debts.

- Sept. 17: AP reports that UN plans to disarm and move Hutu extremists who are using intimidation to prevent Rwandan refugees from returning home.

- Sept. 19: UNHCR issues report estimating that some 2.1 million Rwandans are refugees, including

270,000 in Burundi, 500,000 in Tanzania, and more than 1.3 million in Zaire. Refugees in Zaire include 850,000 in the Goma area, 450,000 in the Bukavu area, and 30,000 in the Uvira area, UNHCR estimates.

Six people are killed by men in military uniform in the Gikongoro area over two days. Both the RPF and ousted government soldiers are accused, reports Reuter.

- Sept. 20: UN shuts down the UN Observer Mission in Uganda and Rwanda (UNOMUR), which had patrolled the Rwanda-Uganda border, and transfers remaining UNOMUR personnel to UNAMIR.

Violence erupts between Rwandan refugees and local Zaireans in Bukavu market in Zaire. Five persons are killed and 15 injured when grenade launched by Zairean soldiers explodes in the market.

- Sept. 21: UN workers find 8,000 bodies in two previously undiscovered mass graves in Gafunzo, 15 kilometers from Cynagugu, southwestern Rwanda.

- Sept. 23: Press reports cite internal UNHCR document charging RPF has participated in systematic revenge killings. UNHCR has stopped all efforts to facilitate or encourage repatriation from Zaire due to the charges of RPF atrocities.

The registered refugee population in Bukavu, Zaire is 230,000, WFP reports. An additional 40,000 refugees in Bukavu are unregistered.

- Sept. 26: President Bizimungu protests UNHCR's charges of RPF reprisals. Bizimungu says UNHCR is "not neutral."

Reuter reports that UNREO and a Canadian UNAMIR spokesperson express caution over UNHCR's report about RPF reprisals.

Some 50,000 Hutu militiamen are living in Zairian refugee camps, Reuter reports.

Only 26 of 147 proposed international human rights monitors have been recruited, Reuter reports.

One hundred six international NGOs are operating in Rwanda, U.S. State Department reports.

More than 200,000 refugees who fled Rwanda after April 6 have repatriated since that time, UNHCR reports.

- Sept. 27: Boutros-Ghali bans public statements by UN officials regarding UNHCR charges that RPF has participated in large numbers of reprisal killings. UNHCR's internal report reportedly alleges an "unmistakable pattern of killings and persecution," according to AP.

"Operation Homeward," a UN effort to transport internally displaced Rwandans to their homes, begins slowly. Seventy-five refugees are moved from Cyanika camp, 250

kilometers from Kigali. Operation Homeward had planned to move some 4,000 displaced persons per day out of overcrowded camps.

UN officers find an estimated 7,000 bodies in mass graves in Cyanika, as seasonal rains wash away covering soil. Some mass graves are being sealed to prevent the spread of disease.

UN officials say the number of new refugees leaving Rwanda now surpasses the number of refugees who are repatriating.

Sept. 28: UN suspends "Operation Homeward" after rumors about insecurity send some 4,700 Rwandans fleeing across the border to neighboring Burundi during the past two days. UNAMIR spokesperson says "clandestine radio broadcasts [are] discouraging refugees from leaving" their camps.

Special team of 20 UN experts is investigating UNHCR reports of reprisal killings by the RPF, Reuter reports.

Canadian troops find 500 bodies, dead for four months, in Nyrabuye, southeast Rwanda.

A UN spokeswoman says that some aid agencies will withdraw from Kituku camp for 48 hours after disturbances occur when Caritas temporarily runs out of food. Banditry is increasing in the camps because there is no police presence and no judicial system, reports Reuter.

Sept. 29: Rwandan refugees kill a Zairean employee of UNHCR, threaten aid workers, and erect barricades in Katale camp, Reuter reports. UNHCR reportedly withdraws from camp for 48 hours.

Major General Tousignant, commander of UNAMIR forces in Rwanda, says security has improved and his officers have no reports of systematic reprisal killings by soldiers of the new government, according to Reuter.

Sept. 30: The last American troops leave Rwanda. Some 250 French troops depart Goma, leaving only two French soldiers behind, Reuter reports.

Relief workers evacuate from Katale refugee camp, located 30 miles north of Goma, due to growing insecurity. "It has become clear that bandits within the refugees have taken control of the camp and made personal threats" against aid workers, a UNHCR official says. Some 270,000 refugees live in the camp. Among the agencies withdrawing are UNHCR, Medecins Sans Frontieres, Oxfam, German Red Cross, and others.

UNAMIR spokesman, responding to unpublished UNHCR reports of widespread RPF atrocities, charges that Rwanda's new leaders and the UN are the target of a plot to discredit them, Reuter reports.

