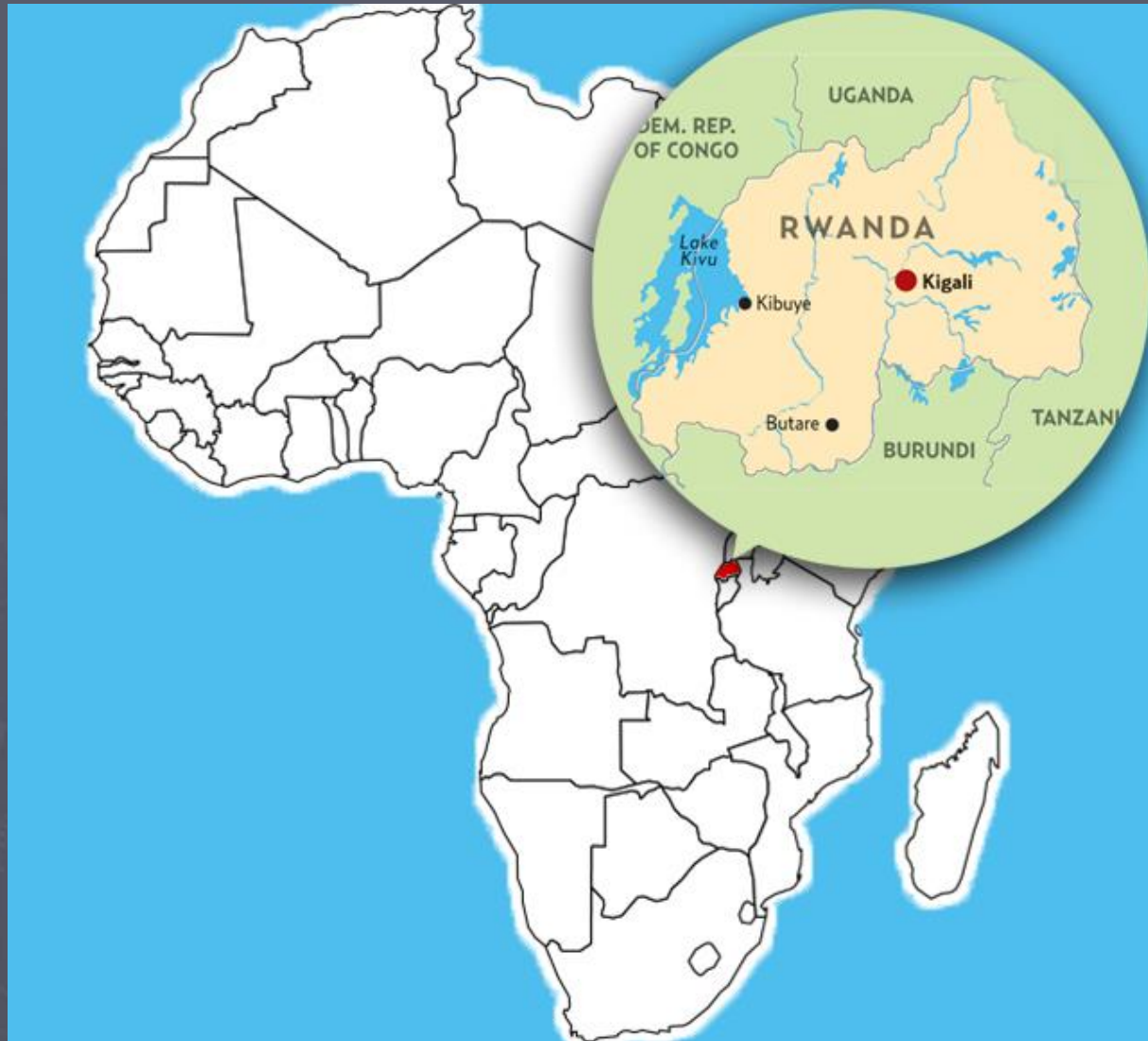


The Rwandan Genocide

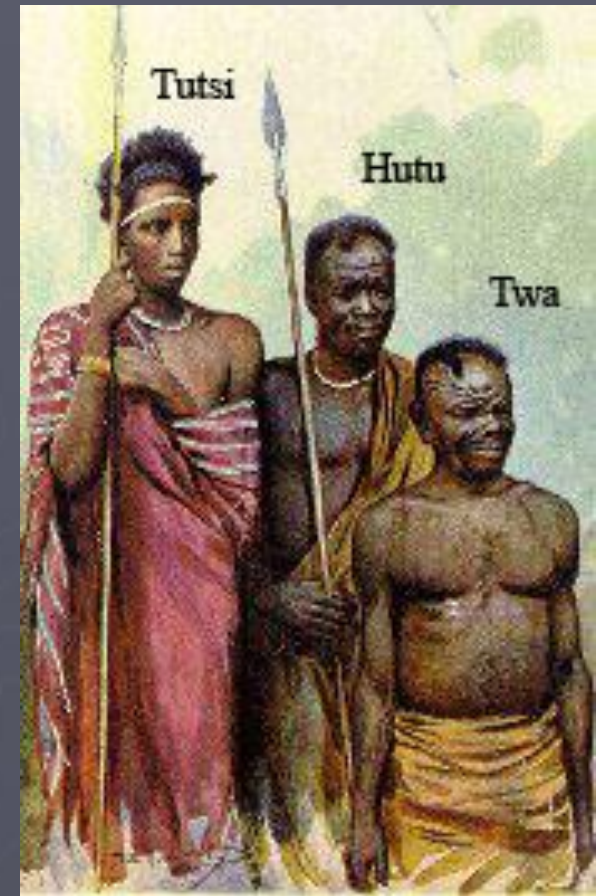
A Case Study of Modern Genocide

Rwanda



The Colonial Foundation

- Following World War I Rwanda under the Administration of Belgium
 - Favored Tutsi Minority over Hutus and Twa
 - Required identification cards
 - Tutsi given control of taxes, justice system, and had power to take land from Hutus
 - In 1950s Belgians gave power to Hutus
 - Hutus began retaliating
 - Early Atrocities
 - Massacres against Tutsis as early as 1959
 - Many Tutsis fled to neighboring countries



Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF)

- October of 1990 army of Tutsi refugees begins Civil War from bases in Uganda
 - Led to Civil War between Tutsi RPF and Hutu Government
 - Government supported by French in weapons and training
- Arusha Accords
 - Ceasefire signed in 1993 that allowed power sharing and the return of Hutus
- United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR)
 - Peace Keeping mission to enforce Arusha Accords



The Interahamwe

- Radical Hutus calling for the extermination of the Tutsis
 - Also called for the killings of moderate Hutus that helped Tutsis
 - Developed Radio Télévision Libre des Mille Collines (RTLMC) to spread genocidal messages
- Mostly relied on action of individual Hutus



The Genocide Fax

- January 11th, 1994 UNAMIR General Roméo Dallaire sent a Fax to UN Department of Peace Keeping Operations
 - Warned of imminent massacres and suggested action
 - DPKO ordered Dallaire to do nothing

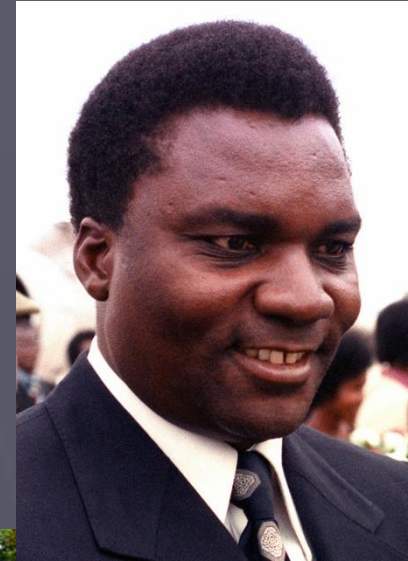
6. PRINCIPAL AIM OF INTERHAMWE IN THE PAST WAS TO PROTECT KIGALI FROM RPF. SINCE UNAMIR MANDATE HE HAS BEEN ORDERED TO REGISTER ALL TUTSI IN KIGALI. HE SUSPECTS IT IS FOR THEIR EXTERMINATION. EXAMPLE HE GAVE WAS THAT IN 20 MINUTES HIS PERSONNEL COULD KILL UP TO 1000 TUTSIS.

7. INFORMANT STATES HE DISAGREES WITH ANTI-TUTSI EXTERMINATION. HE SUPPORTS OPPOSITION TO RPF BUT CANNOT SUPPORT KILLING OF INNOCENT PERSONS. HE ALSO STATED THAT HE BELIEVES THE PRESIDENT DOES NOT HAVE FULL CONTROL OVER ALL ELEMENTS OF HIS OLD PARTY\FACTION.

8. INFORMANT IS PREPARED TO PROVIDE LOCATION OF MAJOR WEAPONS CACHE WITH AT LEAST 135 WEAPONS. HE ALREADY HAS DISTRIBUTED 110 WEAPONS INCLUDING 35 WITH AMMUNITION AND CAN GIVE US DETAILS OF THEIR LOCATION. TYPE OF WEAPONS ARE G3 AND AK47 PROVIDED BY RGF. HE WAS READY TO GO TO THE ARMS CACHE TONIGHT-IF WE GAVE HIM THE FOLLOWING GUARANTEE. HE REQUESTS THAT HE AND HIS FAMILY (HIS WIFE AND FOUR CHILDREN) BE PLACED UNDER OUR PROTECTION.

The Events Leading to the Genocide

- Assassinations leading up to Genocide
 - Targeting Tutsis and moderate Hutus
- Assassination of Juvénal Habyarimana
 - April 6, 1994
 - President of Rwanda
 - Moderate who was trying to unify nation
 - Plane also contained President of Burundi Cyprien Ntaryamira
 - Still unclear but most likely shot down by RPF
 - Assassination sparked anti-Tutsi violence



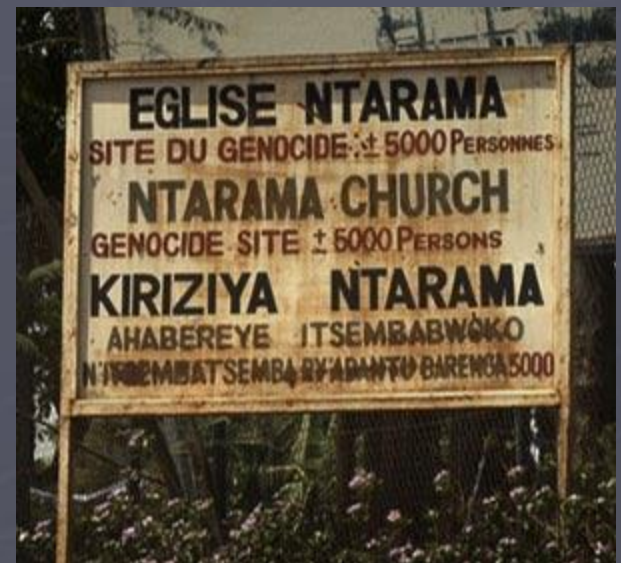
The Genocide Begins

- April 7th
 - Prime Minister Agathe Uwilingiyimana assassinated before able to get to Radio Rwanda to appeal for calm
 - Assigned 10 Belgian soldiers and 5 soldiers from Ghana for protection
 - Agathe and her husband, along with Belgians were brutally murdered by Presidential Guard
- Belgians withdraw remaining troops
- French soldiers assist in the evacuation of Foreign Nationals



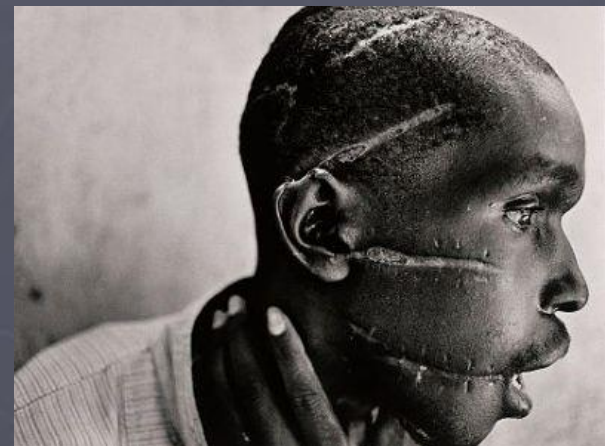
Radio and the Catholic Church

- Radio used to coordinate
 - Spread message of hate and dehumanization
 - “Cockroaches” and “Tall Trees”
 - Radio used to coordinate attacks against specific targets
- Clergy in Rural areas also endorsed killings
 - Tutsi sought sanctuary, but often clergy opened churches to Hutus
 - Catholic Church has still not apologized



Machete Season

- Hutus mostly killed using machetes
 - “Cutting of the tall trees”
 - Had been imported for many years
- Very personal device
 - Hardly any guns used
 - Viewed simply as “going to work”



Hotel Rwanda

- Hotel manager at Hôtel des Mille Collines Paul Rusesabagina in Kigali provided safe haven for Tutsis and moderate Hutus
 - Responsible for saving 1,268 people



The International Response

- UNAMIR Forces unable to prevent killings
 - Strict rules of engagement
 - Could not fire unless fired upon
 - Did not have resources to deal with such a widespread problem
 - Only about 270 soldiers after Belgians and French left
 - By the time more soldiers arrived it was over
- International Community responded with Humanitarian Relief

United State's Reaction

- Somalia Syndrome
 - Less than 7 month before US Military Forces had been engaged in fierce battle in Mogadishu
 - 19 Killed, and 73 Wounded
 - Photos of dead servicemen being dragged through the streets made the operation even more unpopular
- “Acts of Genocide”
 - June 10th - State Department press release saying acts of Genocide had occurred
 - Admitting it was Genocide would have forced United States to respond
- Election Year
 - President Bill Clinton unwilling to commit troops to unpopular cause



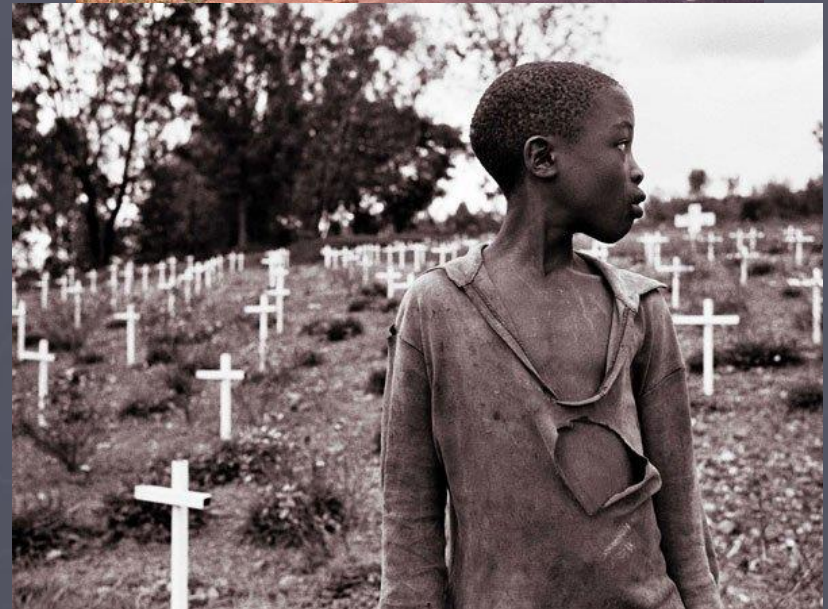
End of the Genocide

- PRF Captures Kigali
 - July 15, 1994
 - Genocide only lasted about 100 days
- Hutu Flee
 - 2 million Hutus and government officials flee the capital
- Multi- Ethnic Government formed



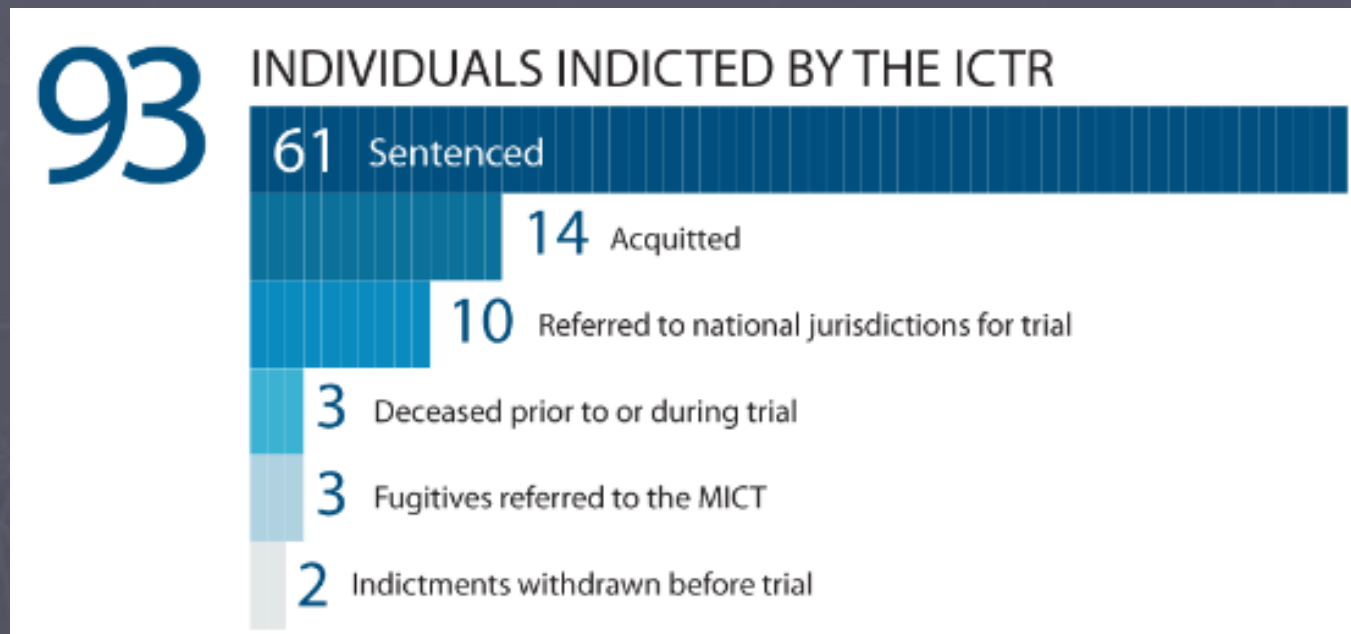
Rwandan Genocide Statistics

- 250,000-500,000 Women Raped
 - Numbers unclear because many were raped then murdered
 - Many infected with HIV/AIDS
- Estimated 800,000-1,000,000 Tutsi and moderate Hutus dead
- Over 2 million refugees



International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR)

- Established to bring to trial the organizers of the Genocide
 - Began in 1995
 - Convicted were put in Jail



Truth and Reconciliation

- Gacaca Courts (Justice among the grass)
 - Local courts set up to try thousands of suspects
 - Close to 2 million tried
 - 65% found guilty
 - Mainly focused on participants
 - Organizers tried by the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (UNICTR)
 - Weekly trials to give communities chance to face accused, give evidence, and seek out truth
 - Convicted were sentenced to Jail, Hard Labor, or Community Service



Memorials

- Many formal and informal memorials located around the country
 - Often sites relatively untouched since massacre
 - Bones and bloody clothes still strewn about
- Memorials as a message/warning
 - Government reminder of the possibility of conflict when challenged



Paul Kagame

- Tutsi
- Defacto President from 1994-2000
- Elected President from 2000-Present
- Participation in Rwandan Civil War as part of RPF is questionable



Sources

- Siguru, Wahutu, and Ziemer, Nancy, “Teaching Genocides in Africa: Rwanda and Darfur”, Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies Summer Institute, University of Minnesota, June 20-23, 2016