

## CHRONOLOGY OF STATEMENTS AND EVENTS

1994

- April 6 Presidents Habyarimana and Ntaryamira are killed when their plane is shot down.  
8 RPF commander Paul Kagame, citing ethnic killings, declares war and his battalion advances into Kigali.
- 22 Security Council (SC) votes for a reduction of UNAMIR.
- May 2 Clinton signs Presidential Decision Directive 25, setting new and much tighter post-Somalia criteria for U.S. participation in, and payment to support, U.N. peacekeeping operations.
- June 7 U.N. says it is ready to send 5,500 troops but is lacking equipment.
- 11 France condemns slaughter in Rwanda and says international community may take steps to secure a cease fire.
- 13 Rebels capture Gitarama, former government seat.
- 14 Hutu militiamen abduct 40 Tutsi children in government-held area of Kigali and are believed to kill them.
- 16 France says world must end inaction over Rwanda and is prepared to intervene with European and African allies.  
All members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee send a letter to President Clinton urging him to respond to the genocide in Rwanda.
- 18 RPF tells other countries not to join the French.
- 21 French advance party arrives in Goma, Zaire.
- 22 42 French-speaking African peacekeepers in U.N. force leave Kigali after RPF objects to their presence. U.N. SC approves French intervention (with five abstentions) under Resolution 929, which authorizes member states to conduct a multinational operation until UNAMIR is strengthened. French and Senegalese forces begin Operation Turquoise.
- 23 First French troops reach Goma and enter western Rwanda.
- 24 Tutsi refugees in Nyarushishi camp near Cyangugu welcome French troops, and Hutu militiamen dismantle roadblocks.
- 28 French troops evacuate 35 nuns to Goma, Zaire.
- July 2 Boutros-Ghali backs French proposal for designated safe area in southwest Rwanda, and French troops are deployed.
- 3 French troops evacuate 600 orphans from Butare; clash with rebels for first time.
- 4 Rebels capture Kigali and seize Butare; French troops in town of Gikongoro receive order to halt rebel advance.
- 13 UNHCR Goma says as many as 100,000 have crossed the only frontier still controlled by Rwanda's government.
- 14 France calls for an emergency meeting of the U.N. SC and warns of another humanitarian catastrophe; SC demands an immediate cease-fire in Rwanda and calls on the international community to supply relief for refugees fleeing rebel troops.  
Twagiramungu, named by the RPF to head a national unity government, arrives in Kigali on a U.N. plane from Uganda.
- 15 The United States (U.S.) closes the Rwandan Embassy in Washington, orders diplomats to leave the country in five days, and initiates removal of Rwandan representatives from the U.N. SC.  
A senior French official states that the rump government leaders have requested asylum from France. Paris issues a statement saying they would not be welcome in the French zone. Aid agencies estimate upwards of 200,000 people crossed into Zaire from Rwanda.
- 17 Rebel mortar shells begin exploding in Gisenyi, in northwestern Rwanda, where refugees have jammed the border crossing hoping to escape the civil war. The number of refugees crowding Goma is estimated at nearly a million.  
A U.N. official states that, by continuing to fight when they have control of the country, the RPF is giving credence to charges that they want to force all Hutus out of the country.

- France condemns mortar shellings around Zaire's Goma airport, which resulted in the deaths – directly or as a result of trampling – of about 60 people, most of them children. U.N. officers say there is little doubt the shelling came from RPF positions. The shelling caused the U.N. to suspend its humanitarian aid flights to Goma.
- 19 Several hundred thousand Rwandan refugees reach Bukavu.
- 21 The U.N. special human rights investigator for Rwanda calls on countries giving refuge to people responsible for mass killings there to ensure that they do not escape justice. Rene Degni-Segui also expresses concern at reports received of summary executions and pillage in Kigali by "certain forces" of the RPF.
- 23 UNHCR wants to encourage and assist the voluntary repatriation, on foot, of more than one million Hutu refugees. This decision – a shift for UNHCR, which had declared Rwanda was still a dangerous place – came after receiving assurances from Rwandan rebel leaders that those returning would be safe.
- Refugees start walking North, as aid officials and the Zairian government urge refugees to leave Goma town and join camps.
- France rules out leaving its troops in a French-declared safe area in southwestern Rwanda beyond the expiry of its U.N. mandate on 22 August, despite pressure from Washington and UNHCR.
- 25 U.S. troops begin a massive operation to deliver aid to Zaire for Rwandan refugees, a move that aid groups and U.N. officials hope will not deter people from returning home.
- The U.S. ambassador to Rwanda returns to Kigali and President Bizimungu says he will formally ask the envoy to move the operation to Kigali to act as a magnet to attract refugees home.
- Pasteur Bizimungu arrives in Mauritius for talks with Mobutu Sese Seko on speeding up the return of refugees from Zaire and disarming ex-FAR soldiers.
- 27 UNHCR criticizes the militia members and others in the camps for spreading rumors against repatriation. The U.N. refugee agency itself is also criticized for not yet having used radio, sound trucks, or any other means to tell refugees that it is safe to leave.
- Defense Secretary Perry says U.S. troops in Africa could reach 4,000.
- Jerome Bicomupaka, foreign minister in the exiled government, announces that the Hutus are ready to launch a new guerrilla war if the RPF continues to refuse to negotiate.
- 29 Senior administration officials correct what they say were premature statements by the U.S. military that up to 2,000 American troops may be deployed in Rwanda as part of a repatriation operation. White House officials say there has been confusion among U.S. military officers about plans to send troops to Rwanda. Secretary Perry, who plans to go to the region over the weekend, says no final decision has been made on whether to send troops to Rwanda, in addition to the 4,000 U.S. servicemen and women expected to take part in the humanitarian operation outside Rwanda. The U.S. government stresses that its mission is strictly humanitarian, and has nothing to do with a U.N. commitment to send up to 5,500 soldiers into the country to replace French troops.
- 31 The first 60 U.S. troops arrive in Kigali.
- August 1 France's Prime Minister and the U.S. Defense Secretary arrive on separate visits in Zaire to assess how to increase the U.S. role in the Rwandan relief operation ahead of a French army pullout from Rwanda. Balladur declares French may stay longer in Rwanda. About 440 Canadian troops and 550 British soldiers are flying in over the next days, as Westerners take over a mission carried out until now mainly by ill-equipped U.N. African troops. Perry says the opening of Kigali airport would allow the doubling of relief supplies going into Goma.
- The first main body of U.S. troops arrives in Kigali's airport.
- Mrs. Ogata declares she would tell Rwanda's 2.2 million refugees to go home only when the new government shows it can deliver on its promises to protect them.

- 2 Defense Secretary Perry states on his return from Africa that he is more hopeful about an international effort to save millions of Rwandan refugees and that only 3,000 U.S. troops will be needed to support the humanitarian operation. The U.S. and many relief agencies reiterate that the quick return of the million refugees from Zaire is critical and suggest that an organized start should get under way immediately before the onset of heavy seasonal rains the following month, when conditions in the camps will deteriorate further. However, Mrs. Ogata, who was expected to endorse quick repatriation during her visit, expresses caution.
- 3 Rwandan Prime Minister Faustin Twagiramungu says that his government would not object to French troops staying on in the safe zone set up in southwest Rwanda if they joined a U.N. peacekeeping force.  
Rwandan Premier declares he wants to try 30,000 persons for genocide.  
During a heated meeting with U.N. officials, about 20 provincial leaders refuse to cross the border in cars with U.N. banners and come back to Zaire in the same cars to report on conditions to their constituents.
- 4 U.S. Defense Secretary William Perry states U.S. troops would withdraw rather than get involved in fighting if widespread killing returned to Rwanda. Perry tells the House Defense Appropriations Committee he does not expect U.S. forces to be in Rwanda and refugees camps for a long time.
- 6 The U.N. hopes to have 3,000 soldiers in Rwanda within the next month. Mr. Iqbal Riza blames governments' reluctance to send soldiers to the war-ravaged country for the delay in deploying the 5,500 troops approved by the U.N. SC in May.
- 7 U.S. military chief visits U.S. troops in Rwanda and Zaire.
- 8 UNHCR estimates that 100,000 refugees have left the camps in Zaire and begun the trek home. UNHCR officials say they have no evidence of attacks on returnees and continue to encourage a return and relief distribution en route. For the first time, a fleet of 42 trucks is deployed on the roads of Rwanda to assist those who need transportation home. A UNHCR-sponsored radio station established for refugees plans to broadcast testimonials from Hutus who returned.
- 10 The SC urges the rapid return home of Rwandan refugees and strongly condemns intimidation by those trying to prevent them.
- 11 According to a senior French army officer, the rebels who took power the previous month in Kigali and the defeated Rwandan army are holding talks.
- 13 UNHCR warns that refugee camps risk becoming a new Gaza strip.
- 15 The Zairian Prime Minister asks the Secretary-General for a contribution to transfer 20,000 ex-FAR from the border and temporarily to install former Rwandan authorities in Kinshasa.
- 16 Burundi's interim leader, Sylvestre Ntibantuganya, and Rwanda's new president, Pasteur Bizimungu, meet Presidents Ali Hassan Mwinyi of Tanzania, Yoweri Museveni of Uganda, and Frederick Chiluba of Zambia in Arusha to discuss ways of restoring peace and coaxing refugees back home.
- 19 Rwanda's Prime Minister Faustin Twagiramungu declares that any closure of the border with Zaire would be unhelpful and not stop people fleeing the Zone Turquoise.
- 21 300,000 U.N. leaflets urging Rwandans to go home are dropped in the refugee camps.
- 22 Hutus panic as French troops leave Rwanda.
- 23 According to Monsignor Joseph Duval, Bishop of Rouen and president of the French Episcopal Conference, although it is too early to tell the refugees to go home, they must prepare themselves to return.
- 24 Refugees leave Bukavu for new camp site.  
Attackers prevent UNHCR-sponsored repatriation of Rwandan park rangers.
- 26 U.S. troops pull out.
- 27 President Pasteur Bizimungu, Paul Kagame, Faustin Twagiramungu, and other government officials visit Butare city and surrounding areas to reassure people they are committed to peace but also pledge punishment for those who have caused trouble.
- 29 Troops of the RPF shoot and kill a refugee returning home in a U.N. convoy as he tries to escape from them.

- 31 Talks between Zairian and Rwandan ministers are postponed for a third day after teams of experts failed to agree on key issues. Rwandan delegates say they are not getting the answers they want from the Zairians on the return of Rwandan property brought into Zaire and on the formation of a joint commission.
- Sept. 1 Speaking at the start of a ministerial meeting with the Rwandan government, Zaire Justice Minister Kamanda Wa Kamanda declares Zaire wants the 1.2 million Rwandan refugees on its territory to leave by the end of the month and promises to stop Hutu militiamen terrorizing refugees into staying, and to disarm and encamp members of the former Rwandan government army. UNHCR, Zaire, and Rwanda agree that repatriation should be voluntary. UNHCR opens Kahindo camp to decongest Kibumba and 50,000 Rwandans are transferred there.
- 8 Zaire's Prime Minister Kengo Wa Dondo announces that there is no question of returning property taken out of Rwanda by fleeing ministers until the government in Kigali persuades Hutu refugees to go back home. He expresses dissatisfaction at not having received any reply to the three letters he has sent the U.N. Secretary-General asking for help in providing former Rwandan soldiers with civilian clothing, moving them to two camps selected more than 150 km (100 miles) from the border, and finding a country of asylum for the government-in-exile. Kengo adds it now looks likely that France, which still has men and equipment stationed in Goma, would provide planes to transport the Rwandan soldiers.
- 9 Troops of Rwanda's ousted Hutu government are preparing to go back to war, according to the U.N. special envoy to the country, Shaharyar Khan.
- 12 Shaharyar Khan leaves Kigali for Kinshasa to meet President Mobutu Sese Seko to discuss Rwandan refugees. Tousignant mentions infiltrations from Zaire, but not enough to speak of organized operations.
- 16 The World Bank says it cannot release up to \$250 million in loans to revive Rwanda's economy until its arrears are paid. Once the arrears are paid, the World Bank would be ready in two to three months to transfer \$100 million a year in loans.
- 18 Shaharyar Khan confirms that the decision on who should be moved to camps farther away from the border would be made by a joint task force consisting of the U.N., its aid agencies, and Zaire, which would meet in the next few days. The joint task force would report to the U.N. within two weeks on sites for the new camps, the cost of the operation, and on numbers to be moved.
- 25 UNHCR states it has good evidence of revenge killings by Tutsis of Hutus in different areas of Rwanda. UNHCR confirms it cannot in good conscience assist in repatriation to any location where UNAMIR does not have a good presence.
- 28 20 U.N. experts are in Rwanda investigating reports by the UNHCR that troops of the new government systematically killed Hutus, especially in the south east.
- 30 A military spokesman of UNAMIR criticizes people who allegedly try to discredit what the Rwandan government and the U.N. are trying to achieve.
- As the last French contingent leaves Goma, aid agencies pull all international staff out of Katala camp, after bandits among the refugees took control of the camp and threatened the workers. The UNHCR tells the refugees they would be given 48 hours to think about their position, during which time no food would be delivered to the camp. UNHCR continues to press for some kind of international peacekeeping force in Goma's volatile camps, and President Mobutu Sese Seko is rumored to have made a formal request to the UN for such a force to be deployed.
- Under command of Brig. Gen. Henry Anyidoho, the U.N. begins assessing the risks of moving up to 30,000 defeated Rwandan soldiers from the camps; but UN special representative to Rwanda acknowledges in a report to Boutros Boutros-Ghali that attempts to move the troops could spark violence, and the U.N. might have to invoke Chapter 7 of its charter, which allows the use of force. Mr. S. Khan suggests U.N. troops already in Rwanda could be used for the job, as the Zairian government has admitted that its own army would not be able to carry out the task.
- Oct. 1 The main Japanese military contingent arrives in Goma, but Japanese officials say they may withdraw their troops if security in the area deteriorates.
- 3 Zaire's President buries the remains of former Rwandan leader Juvenal Habyarimana in his own

northern Zairian home town of Gbadolite until they can be returned to Rwanda.

The last 478 U.S. troops depart central Africa.

S. Ogata appeals to the international community for armed elements inside Rwandan refugee camps in Zaire and Tanzania who threaten refugees and aid workers to be withdrawn immediately.

Rwandan Prime Minister rejects claims in a UNHCR internal report that his government has organized systematic massacres of returning Hutus.

- 4 Army officers and officials of Rwanda's ousted government say they are ready to negotiate power-sharing with its new rulers.
- 5 UNHCR declares that international aid workers will return to Katala refugee camp in eastern Zaire if camp leaders agree to demands to improve security.
- 7 Rwandan President warns that his country would create its own war crimes tribunal if the U.N. does not move quickly on its proposal to try suspected murderers.
- 8 Zaire is to bar Rwandan refugee children from enrolling in schools in northern and eastern Zaire.
- 13 Zairian Premier Kengo wa Dondo declares that his country is prepared to extradite those responsible for the genocide in Rwanda who have fled to refugee camps in Zaire.
- 21 The U.N. accuses Rwanda's new government of planning to force 800,000 Hutus out of camps in the southwest.

The European Commission awards Rwanda 5 million Ecus to restore water and electricity to its capital and to encourage its refugee population home.

- 24 The prime ministers of Zaire and Rwanda call for the creation of two buffer zones under U.N. protection where Hutu refugees could re-adapt to life in Rwanda and lose their fears of returning. However, this is watered down to setting up reception centers: after initially appearing to support the idea, the Rwandans objected. Both countries also call on the international community to press on with plans to resettle former ministers and an estimated 30,000 ex-FAR.

A Tri-partite agreement on the repatriation of refugees is signed between Zaire, Rwanda, and UNHCR.

- Nov.
- 1 According to aid workers, hundreds of villagers have been killed in ethnic clashes in the hills of Masisi, triggered by the influx of Hutu refugees.
  - 2 26 children are among 36 villagers killed by attackers who crossed from Zaire into northwestern Rwanda.
  - 4 Relief agencies warn that they might pull out of Rwandan refugee camps in eastern Zaire unless international action is taken to break the rule of terror by Hutu leaders and their militia forces.
  - 6 In a statement, the Rwandan government accuses certain SC members of trying to torpedo the tribunal because they fear seeing their own leaders implicated.  
The whole of eastern Zaire is ready to blow, a UNHCR official in Goma warns.
  - 8 Shaharyar Khan announces that up to 4,800 U.N. troops may be sent to keep peace in Rwandan refugee camps.  
Mobutu Sese Seko criticizes France for keeping Rwanda away from a Franco-African summit.
  - 9 The SC establishes an international tribunal to prosecute the killers of more than a half-million people in Rwanda. The government in Kigali votes against the resolution.
  - 14 Rwanda's PM says the U.N. and aid agencies should scale down or cut off aid, to force Rwandan refugees to return home.
  - 15 MSF-France calls off its work in Rwandan refugee camps inside Zaire and warns that killers linked to the ousted Rwandan government have begun a reign of terror.
  - 17 The Rwandan army and paramilitary police will be given 6 seats in the national assembly, and the party of the late president Juvenal Habyarimana will not be represented. Parties in the current Tutsi-led coalition government, established in July, will share out 13 seats previously allocated to Habyarimana's National Republican Movement for Democracy and Development (MNRD).
  - 18 In a statement after its weekly session, the Zaire cabinet expresses its outrage at the existence in

eastern Zaire of a shadow government formed by Hutu ministers who fled when the Rwanda Patriotic Front won the civil war in July.

A report by Boutros-Ghali to the SC proposes a gradual deployment of up to 5,000 U.N. troops in eastern Zaire refugee camps.

- 25 Corruption and mismanagement mean Zaire's economy has shrunk to its 1958, pre-independence level, but the World Bank declares there will be no new cash until the government can prove it is serious about reform.  
Zairian troops open fire in Katale refugee camp, killing at least 18 people and wounding 70 on 24 and 25 November, after a soldier is killed in a quarrel over a refugee car.  
Rwanda installs an interim Parliament.
  - 27 Zaire expels 37 Hutus from Goma refugee camp, handing them over to RPF troops at the border in what an official says is a crackdown on crime.
  - 29 The presidents of Rwanda, Zaire, and Burundi call for internationally supervised security zones to be set up in Rwanda to encourage the return of refugees.  
Forced out of scattered settlements, thousands of refugees move toward official camps, where the Zairian authorities have vowed to keep them.
  - 30 The SC renews the mandate of U.N. forces in Rwanda for six months but takes no action in establishing any outside security forces for refugee camps in Zaire. Following Boutros-Ghali's recent recommendation in his report of 18 November to deploy 3,000-5,000 additional peacekeepers to provide security in the camps, the SC requests the Secretary-General to provide additional information on objectives of peace-keeping troops, and requests the Secretary-General to consult potential troop contributors as well as investigate hiring private security guards to train and monitor Zairian authorities patrolling the camps. The SC also expresses concern over the potential use of local security forces without international involvement. U.S. Ambassador Madeleine Albright states she believes the current UNAMIR could carry out its responsibilities "within existing resources for the moment."
- Dec.
- 1 Thousands of Rwandans flee into Zaire from the southwest of the country, after Rwandan government forces empty at least one camp of displaced persons.
  - 2 Zairian army's move to regroup Rwandan refugees into U.N.-designated camps has uprooted some 60,000 people in eastern Zaire into cramped camps.
  - 5 Paul Kagame warns that government troops would launch "hot pursuit" operations into Zaire if attacked by forces of the ousted regime in exile there.
  - 6 Rwandan PM asks governments in neighboring African countries to push refugees to return home and urges aid groups to stop feeding former government troops massed in camps.
  - 11 to 19 DPKO's mission to review camp situation at the Secretary-General's request and following the SC statement of November 11.
  - 13 In Washington, Paul Kagame asks his U.S. counterpart, William Perry, for his support in taking action to remove members of the Hutu militia from refugee camps in Zaire.
  - 14 ICRC chief Cornelio Sommaruga declares that there is no prospect of a genuine settlement of the tragedy left by Rwanda's civil war and massacres.
  - 15 At the SC, Paul Kagame says that U.N. and other international aid groups should cut off supplies to militant Hutus in Zaire camps, who should be separated from other refugees. Kagame later suggests to reporters that the U.N. Assistance Mission for Rwanda could be expanded by about 3,000 to monitor the camps and use force if necessary to restore order in the camps, although this was not mentioned to SC members by Kagame. The U.S. continues to oppose expanding the 5,600-member U.N. force and suggests private security guards for the refugee camps.
  - 18 The Rwandan government appears to have accepted U.N. pressure to delay its plans to close all camps for displaced persons in the southwest of the country by the end of December. This follows a large-scale operation by the U.N. to search two of the camps to round up extremists there.
  - 19 UNHCR states it would resume helping Rwandan refugees return home from camps in

neighboring Tanzania, Zaire, and Burundi. UNHCR stopped helping repatriations in September when a UNHCR mission reported reprisal killings by members of the army of Hutus who had returned from the camps.

- 20 Some 800 Rwandan refugees escorted back home by UNHCR.
- 21 UNHCR denounces a decision by a French medical aid agency to pull out of Rwandan refugee camps in Tanzania.
- 23 The presidents of Zaire and Tanzania call for more than one million Rwandan refugees to be repatriated and for a regional summit to meet on Rwanda's crisis. The presidents say safe zones should be established in Rwanda to receive returnees.
- 31 Shaharyar Khan announces that for lack of funds and troops the SC would probably abandon plans to post 5,000 peacekeeping troops to the area and concentrate instead on supporting Zairian security efforts, with U.N. advisers if necessary.

## 1995

- Jan.
- 2 The German air force ends supply flights for Rwandan refugees after six months.
  - 3 The Rwandan government issues new banknotes and declares the previous ones no longer legal tender, in a secretly prepared bid to deprive exiled former leaders of their wealth. The aim is to render worthless the huge sums of money taken abroad, mainly to Zaire, by former government officials and soldiers. The decision is announced only one day before the move is taken. The government states that the exchange of currency would begin the same day and end the following day in the morning.
  - 6 East and Central African ministers meet to prepare a seven-nation summit in Kenya on the regional crisis.
  - 7 Six African presidents meet to debate the refugee and security crises created by the genocide in Rwanda, but Zaire's Mobutu Sese Seko stays away, reducing hopes of real progress at the summit. Tanzanian minister says the new government in Rwanda must come to terms with the 40,000 former government soldiers and militiamen now in camps in eastern Zaire and press the new regime in Kigali to introduce members of the ousted National Republican Movement for Democracy and Development (MRND) into its administration.
  - 9 Rwanda's army confirms its troops attacked a camp in the southwest where 12 homeless people were killed and more than 30 were wounded.
  - 10 The Rwandan government threatens to expel more than 60 international aid agencies that flocked to the country after last year's war and refugee crisis. A senior government official says they had failed to register with the government by a deadline set for 9 January.
  - 12 Soldiers of Rwanda's former government army stage their first big cross-border attack from Zaire the previous day, a foray that UN peacekeepers fear could signal the start of an insurgency. A UN military spokesman states the group of about 50 Hutu troops was driven back into Zaire after a two-hour gunbattle with government forces.
  - 15 According to UNHCR, nearly 200,000 Rwandan refugees who fled to the Zairian border town of Goma in July and August last year have since returned home.
  - 17 UNHCR Special Envoy Carrol Faubert declares that camps in Tanzania and Zaire are to be moved more than 30 miles from Rwanda's borders.
  - 19 Major Western donor countries have pledged up to \$600 million to fund Rwanda's recovery plan in 1995-96, Faustin Twagiramungu says.
  - 20 U.N. officials warn that two large volcanoes are expected to erupt the following month near Goma, threatening 800,000 Rwandan refugees.  
Mrs. Ogata estimates that in 1995 nearly one million refugees and displaced persons will return, referring to those abroad as well as some of the 340,000 displaced in Rwanda.  
Rwanda's PM calls on Zaire to disarm former leaders of the fallen Hutu government and its army, as well as their loyal militia, whom he accuses of intimidating "innocent refugees" from returning home; but Twagiramungu concedes his country cannot absorb a mass influx of returning refugees in the near future. The economy shrank by 50 per cent in 1994.

- Zaire, cold-shouldered by its erstwhile backers in the West, signs a new deal with China focusing on private sector cooperation.
- 25 The U.N. drops a plan to send 5,000 peacekeepers to police Rwandan refugee camps in Zaire because member states would not contribute troops, U.N. Secretary-General declares. Even securing civilian police personnel to train local security forces or even military observers did not attract any potential donors. The U.N. chief further announces that the task has instead been passed on to UNHCR.
- 26 Rwanda's government will name 200 officials and army officers of the former regime who it says planned the genocide. Twagiramungu adds that his government would also grant amnesty to ordinary Hutus who took part in the killings between April and July last year: "Are we really going to give an amnesty to some people? Yes," he confirms.
- 27 UNHCR signs an Aide Memoire with Zaire under which 1,500 elite Zairian troops will police Rwandan refugee camps.
- 30 UNHCR announces it has registered some 726,000 Rwandan refugees in camps in eastern Zaire in the first phase of an exercise to establish an accurate head count.
- Feb. 6 Rwanda's U.N. envoy expresses dismay that the international community, after failing to prevent or halt genocide in his country, is unable to deal with some of the killers now living in refugee camps in neighboring countries. He notes that the Secretary-General, in a recent report, said only one country out of the 60 he asked had been willing to provide troops to ensure the safety of hundreds of thousands of Rwandan refugees, particularly in camps in Zaire.
- 7 The Belgian branch of the medical charity Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) declares it will withdraw from a Rwandan refugee camp in eastern Zaire because of massive fraud and threats against staff.
- 9 Assistant Secretary of State Phyllis Oakley acknowledges a difficult moral dilemma faced by the international community in aiding Rwandan refugee groups that include people who committed genocide, but adds it would take a comprehensive effort to solve this and other problems faced by Rwandan refugees and hopes a conference set for Feb. 15-17 in Bujumbura, Burundi, will take concrete steps toward this end.
- 10 The SC condemns former Rwandan leaders and armed groups for intimidating Rwandan refugees living in camps in neighboring countries, especially Zaire, and welcomes a recent agreement under which 1,500 Zairian troops will help maintain order.
- 12 Mrs. Ogata welcomes the first Zairian troops hired to bring order to Rwandan refugee camps where former militia and government soldiers rule through violence and intimidation.
- 13 Zaire has drawn up plans to evacuate 400,000 Zairians and Rwandan refugees from the Goma region if a simmering volcano erupts as predicted towards the end of the month.
- 15 In a letter read by his special envoy to Burundi, the U.N. chief tells the opening session of a three-day refugee conference, organized by OAU and UNHCR, it has to search for stability and tackle reasons for ethnic strife that has bedeviled Rwanda and Burundi since independence.
- 22 The SC approves Arusha, Tanzania, as the seat of an international tribunal set up in November 1994 to try people accused of genocide and other crimes in Rwanda.
- 25 The chief of staff of Rwanda's ousted government army declares that talks with the new Tutsi-approved government are the only way to prevent a repeat of last year's genocide in the central African state. Augustine Bizimungu adds that an international tribunal to try people accused of genocide and other crimes in Rwanda should target both parties to the conflict: the new government army and his ousted administration.
- 27 The SC adopts a unanimous resolution urging all states to arrest people suspected of involvement in genocide or other atrocities in Rwanda and in refugee camps for Rwandans in neighboring countries. The U.S.-sponsored resolution calls for the suspects to be detained pending prosecution by an international tribunal, which the council set up in November 1994, or by the appropriate national authorities.
- Mar. 2 Zaire's Foreign Minister Lunda Bululu declares that Zairian soldiers have taken control of Rwandan refugee camps and disarmed former soldiers staying in them.
- 5 Gunmen kill Pierre-Claver Rwangabo, prefect of the main southern town of Butare and a key

Hutu politician.

- 15 Zaire's first multi-party elections cannot be held on schedule this year due to the confusion and insecurity caused by one million Rwandan refugees, a senior government official said.
- 16 The pace of return from camps near Goma gathered speed early this year, reaching 1,000 a day. Confidence was growing. A sudden increase of armed raids into Rwanda by groups of refugees changed all that. The new authorities in Rwanda and their soldiers in the renamed Rwanda Patriotic Army (RPA) got tougher, and now only about 300 refugees a day are going home from the Goma sector.
- 17 A shortage of food for refugees has increased tensions in and around the Central African country, stirring fear of renewed violence.
- 27 Oxfam states that planes have been landing in Zaire over the past two months to supply arms to supporters of the former government in Rwanda.
- 31 Thousands of Rwandan refugees face death in Zaire from hunger and cholera, the International Society for Human Rights (ISHR) said in a statement.
- Apr. 5 The tribunal set up by the U.N. to investigate genocide in Rwanda says that it has identified about 400 suspects and aims to issue its first indictments later this year.
- 8 Zaire state media announce that the authorities have decided to act to prevent the defeated Rwandan army from training on its territory for renewed civil war.
- 10 The U.N. World Food Program (WFP) fears that one million Rwandan refugees in Zaire face food shortages and possible malnutrition because Rwanda is holding up its shipments at two border crossings. The WFP appeals to donor countries for \$ 1.5 million to improve roads in Uganda, Zaire, and Tanzania, so that it can use alternate routes.
- 11 Rwanda is on the verge of stopping all U.N. relief supplies passing through its frontier to refugee camps in Zaire because they harbor hardline Hutu rebels.
- 13 Gunmen slaughter 31 Rwandan refugees near Rwanda's eastern border in the first such attack on a camp in Zaire since the exodus a year before.
- 15 Zaire denies that armed groups of Hutu hardliners from Rwanda and Burundi are training on its soil to launch invasions to seize power in their homelands.
- 16 An exiled former president of Rwanda declares that he and other prominent Rwandan refugees accused of mass murders are willing to be examined by an international human rights tribunal. "We are ready to give our contribution to find the truth," Theodore Sindikubwabo, who was president of Rwanda for a brief period in 1994, told the press.
- 18 Zaire completes the deployment of 1,500 soldiers to provide security for Rwandan refugees in camps in eastern Zaire.
- 19 Francois Nzabahimana, president of the newly born (3 April) Rally for the Return and Democracy in Rwanda (RDR) indicates it would pursue talks with Rwanda's government and take military action as a last option. The RDR has the full backing of the ex-FAR.
- 22 The RPA opens fire on refugees and a stampede ensues in Kibeho – a camp for displaced persons that the government has been trying to close for several months.
- 24 In Kigali, a U.N. official indicates that U.N. troops have found more than 8,000 people dead and 650 wounded in Kibeho camp in southwest Rwanda after a search of the site.
- 26 S. Khan tells reporters that after a careful count, U.N. came out with the figure of 2,000 people dead in Kibeho. Khan had given a figure of 5,000, hours after Australian army medical staff said they had counted 4,050 dead and 600 wounded, but the RPA had prevented them from continuing their count.  
RPA soldiers cut off food and water supplies to the last Hutus besieged in Kibeho camp.
- 28 The Rwandan government insists only 300 people were killed in Kibeho camp by troops and stampedes, a figure strongly contested by Australian and Zambian U.N. peacekeepers who were in Kibeho throughout the shootings.
- 29 Zaire blames the Rwandan government for the crisis, which leads Zaire's parliament to call for the repatriation of the Rwandan refugees.
- 30 Villagers beat to death 14 Hutus who had returned home to southern Rwanda.
- May 5 UNHCR Kinshasa is confident Zaire will not heed the advice of its parliament to expel more

- than a million Rwandan refugees.
- 8 An international inquiry begins work in Rwanda to determine how many Hutu refugees died when the army's attempt to close Kibeho camp by force ended in slaughter.
  - 9 The stand-off in Kibeho ends and several hundred Hutus give up and leave for their villages.
  - 16 The RDR calls for talks with the Kigali government and seeks help from the international community to set up a meeting.
  - 18 Rwanda's army used excessive force against Hutu refugees in Kibeho camp last month but the killings were not planned beforehand, an independent inquiry into the Kibeho massacre concludes. The commission cannot say how many died at Kibeho camp, but said it was many more than the official government figure of 338.
  - 22 Rwanda accuses the U.N. of helping suspected mass murderers flee the country after two prominent fugitives are arrested on the Zairian frontier.
  - 26 Rwanda's prison population had reached 33,000 by early May, according to Justice Minister Alphonse Nkubito. Human rights monitors think the true figure was closer to 40,000 by then.
  - 30 Rwanda appeals to the international community to halt arms shipments and military training for rebel troops in eastern Zaire. Rwandan officials speak a day after the U.S.-based Human Rights Watch group accused France, Zaire, and, to a lesser extent, South Africa, China and Seychelles, of helping to re-arm Rwanda's former Hutu army.
  - 31 The South African cabinet orders a Defense Ministry investigation into reports that the state-owned arms procurement agency, Armscor, illegally sold arms to Rwandan militias.
- June
- 2 The U.S. wants military observers to monitor airports in Zaire following allegations of arms flows to Rwanda's Hutu extremists.  
Rwanda's defense minister urges U.N. forces to leave Rwanda and focus their efforts on refugee camps in Zaire and Tanzania.
  - 7 The Rwandan government proposes a U.N. force of 1,865 troops while the U.N. suggests a figure of 2,715.
  - 8 Rwanda will no longer distinguish between Hutus and Tutsis when it issues new identity cards, ending a practice that helped Hutu militiamen to select their victims in last year's genocide, according to government officials.
  - 9 SC extends UNAMIR to December 8, 1995 but decides to reduce the number of troops from 5,500 to 2,330 within three months and to 1,800 within four months and requests the Secretary-General to investigate possibility of deploying military observers to Zaire to prevent violation of arms embargo on Rwanda.
  - 10 Zaire declares that calm has returned to Masisi - its region in North Kivu - after paramilitary troops intervened to stop clashes between local people and Rwandans. At least 85 people died in the fighting in which the government says the immigrants were backed by armed Rwandan refugees.
  - 13 Zairian officials dismiss accusations by human rights group Amnesty International that weapons and ammunition are being flown into the country to arm Rwandan Hutu extremists.  
An aide to Prime Minister Faustin Twagiramungu declares he quits because he cannot stand by while extremists in the government army terrorize innocent Hutus.
  - 14 The commander of Rwanda's ousted Hutu army denies importing arms and planning a new war in Rwanda.
  - 17 Rwanda's Foreign Minister, Anastase Gasana, wrapping up a West African tour in Ivory Coast, states he has won pledges of cooperation with efforts to put on trial more than 400 exiled Hutus suspected of genocide. Anastase Gasana adds that he has handed the leaders of the countries he visited lists containing the names of 446 suspects.
  - 20 to 28 A U.N. special envoy (Aldo Ajello) is sent to central Africa to investigate how illegal arms trafficking can be stopped.
  - 24 Zaire's prime minister, Kengo wa Dondo, tells several thousand cheering fellow countrymen that the Rwandan refugees have overstayed their welcome and must go home.
  - 25 The U.N. plans to send observers to Rwandan refugee camps in eastern Zaire to investigate reports of arms deliveries to Rwandan Hutu extremists.
  - 26 Zaire will decide shortly whether to let U.N. troops patrol Rwandan refugee camps as observers

to ensure Hutu hardliners do not distribute weapons and train fighters there.

- 28 Foreign aid is encouraging two million Rwandan refugees to remain in exile instead of going home, a European Union official declares.
- Parliament opts to extend Zaire's democratic transition by two years.
- July 1 The USAID Chief of Staff (Richard McCall) blasts U.N. and other agencies for "doing a miserable job" in Rwanda and says they should adapt or be replaced. The official singles out the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the World Bank for being slow and ineffective in responding to Rwanda's post-war needs.
- 2 An unlikely alliance of radicals and backers of President Mobutu ousts a Roman Catholic archbishop as speaker.
- 4 Rwanda marks the first anniversary Tuesday of the capture of its capital.
- 6 Rwanda's government and the U.N. meet to review the flow of aid to Rwanda. Since January, up to \$700 million was pledged by donors, only \$134 million of which has been disbursed. UNHCR resumes its voluntary repatriation program in eastern Zaire.
- 11 Rwanda urges the U.N. SC to lift an arms embargo imposed last year on its previous Government.
- 12 The RPA opens fire on soldiers of the ex-FAR. At least one person is killed and four injured in the Panzi camp, in the region of Bukavu.
- 14 Zaire declares its territory has been attacked three times in six months by Rwandan troops and it would push for the U.N. to keep an arms embargo on the Kigali government.
- 17 Following the introduction by the U.S. of a draft on 14 July, the SC unanimously adopts Resolution 1005 (1995) authorizing the supply to Rwanda of "appropriate amounts of explosives intended exclusively for use in established humanitarian demining programmes."
- 22 Rwanda denies it has sent troops to Zaire to kill Rwandan Hutu refugees there and accuses Kinshasa of sealing the border to prevent their being repatriated.
- 25 Zaire denies accusations from Rwanda that it is preventing refugees returning home and urges its neighbor to do more to ensure that the refugees could safely return.
- Aug. 14 Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni arrives in Rwanda for a three-day visit, his first since rebels seized power in Kigali in July 1994.
- 15 Zaire accuses Rwanda and Burundi of preparing to launch an attack on Hutu refugee camps in the east of the country.
- 16 Tanzania's foreign minister defends its decision to close its borders with Rwanda and Burundi to block refugees fleeing ethnic fighting.
- Ugandan President warns he would step in militarily to help Kigali as tension mounted on Zaire's eastern border amid fears that extremist Hutus are planning attacks to retake Rwanda.
- The U.N. SC unanimously approves a one-year suspension of the arms embargo on Rwanda: Resolution 1011/1995 lifts SC Res. 918 of 1994. The Rwandan government made the request in view of increased military activities by Hutu militias. Kigali, backed by non-aligned countries in the SC and by the U.S., had hoped to win an outright lifting of the embargo.
- 17 In a letter to Boutros-Ghali, the Zairian PM notes that the suspension of the arms embargo against Rwanda compels Zaire to call on the U.N. Secretary-General to evacuate Rwandan and Burundian refugees from the country.
- 20 Zaire announces its troops have begun expelling Rwandan refugees.
- 21 Zairian troops expel more than 2,000 Rwandan Hutu refugees. UNHCR estimates that 26,000 took to the hills to escape. Newspapers in Kinshasa unanimously welcome the expulsions.
- 22 Boutros-Ghali and the U.S. call on Zaire to halt the mass expulsions, but the Kinshasa government shrugs off international concern and confirms it wants the U.N. to take the refugees off its hands. Boutros Boutros-Ghali asks Sadako Ogata to proceed to Zaire in an attempt to defuse the crisis.
- More than 10,000 refugees have been sent across the Rwanda border and 60,000 others have fled their camps to avoid the same fate.
- Zaire states the U.N. has expressed understanding for the expulsion and announces that the forced repatriation would continue.

- 23 In a statement approved at a formal meeting, the SC calls on Zaire "to stand by its humanitarian obligations regarding refugees" and "to reconsider and halt its declared policy of forcibly repatriating refugees to Rwanda and Burundi." The statement notes the contribution of Zaire and other states in the region that have accepted refugees from Rwanda and Burundi. It encourages Rwanda to facilitate the safe return of its nationals as soon as possible. Nearly 15,000 refugees have been expelled since the 21st and more than 130,000 have fled to escape a forced return. The U.N. and the troika of Belgium, France, and the U.S., the Western countries most influential in Zaire, have called for a suspension of the expulsions. In 1991 the troika suspended all but emergency assistance to Zaire. Early in 1992 the European Community followed suit. By 1994 the Bretton Woods international lending institutions did the same in view of Zaire's failure to meet its interest repayments, let alone pay off its debts. In February the World Bank closed its office, and in June Zaire was suspended from the International Monetary Fund. UNHCR might consider taking over the Zairian operation if the refugees showed signs of genuine willingness to go. UNHCR Goma indicates refugee leaders have written to the UNHCR expressing their willingness to return to their countries under the auspices of the UNHCR.
- 24 The OAU appeals to Zaire to exercise tolerance and stop its forced repatriation of thousands of Rwandan refugees. The U.S. welcomes news that Zaire has halted its expulsion of Rwandan refugees and kept its troops out of camps as an agreement is being negotiated on voluntary repatriations by UNHCR. Some experts link this week's expulsion to tough talking during a recent visit to Rwanda by Museveni, who lashed out at "reactionary" leaders "whose time is drawing near." Rwanda hopes that Hutu refugees in Zaire will continue to return but cannot condone forced expulsions, according to Information Minister Jean-Baptiste Nkuliyingoma.
- 25 Thousands of Rwandan refugees return to their camps but only a few refugees repatriate. U.N. officials believe that Zaire's brief expulsions "broke the back" of the extremists who controlled the camps.
- 28 France and Rwanda clash during a SC meeting when Kigali's representative accuses Paris of pursuing its economic interests in central Africa to the detriment of the people. Rwandan Prime Minister Faustin Twagiramungu resigns.
- 29 Speaking in Geneva after talks with Sadako Ogata, Kengo wa Dondo declares that all refugees must be out of Zaire by the end of the year. Kengo regrets the resignations of Rwanda's Minister of the Interior and Minister of Justice, considered as moderates by Zaire, who followed the example of Twagiramungu. The resignation of the Rwandan Hutu Prime Minister confirms that the situation in Rwanda is too dangerous for the two million Hutu refugees to return voluntarily, RDR declares.
- 30 The Dutch arm of the international aid group Medecins sans Frontières intends to pull out of the Rwandan refugee camps because it believes they are being used as shelters by the perpetrators of genocide. France expresses its concern over the sudden departure of four Hutus from the Rwandan cabinet, which may discourage Rwandan refugees in Zaire, Tanzania and Burundi from returning home. Zairian PM is criticized by the opposition as being too lenient in setting a year-end deadline for the U.N. to remove the Rwandan refugees from Zaire. Twagiramungu declares his intention to remain in Rwanda.
- Sept. 31 Rwanda's new PM, Pierre Claver Rwigema, is sworn in.
- 3 "By the end of 1995, we believe the refugees will be gone under a responsible forced repatriation," says a U.S. diplomat. A senior European diplomat agrees, describing UNHCR's efforts to persuade Zaire to stop expelling Rwandan refugees as "politically correct but strategically wrong. ... Zaire had just unlocked the door by deporting these people. It was such a window of opportunity," the diplomat says. "We must make a deal with Zaire and let its troops go into the camps. The UNHCR must pull out and wait for refugees on the Rwandan side of the border. In that way, it can remain pure," he adds.
- 4 UNHCR promises more efforts to convince hundreds of thousands of Rwandan and Burundian

- refugees to return home.
- 6 Rwanda's President appeals to the refugees to return home and promises his government would do its utmost to protect them from any reprisals. President Pasteur Bizimungu issues his appeal before Mrs. Sadako Ogata, on a visit to Rwanda and neighboring countries in an effort to push forward the flagging repatriation.
    - Zaire and the UNHCR agree on a plan to return the refugees on a voluntary basis.
  - 7 The SC votes unanimously to set up an international commission of inquiry to investigate reports of arms flows to the former Rwandan army.
  - 8 UNHCR Goma mentions that the agreement between Zaire and UNHCR includes a commitment by Zaire to arrest Hutu militants in the camps who led the genocide and now prevent the refugees from going home.
    - France asks Zaire PM, on a visit to Paris, to help arrange an early peace conference with the OAU and the U.N. to settle problems with neighbors Rwanda and Burundi.
    - A UNHCR deal with Zaire to send home more than a million Rwandan and Burundian refugees comes as a surprise to senior diplomats, and some see slim prospects of success.
  - 11 According to a U.N. diplomat, former Maj. Gen. Augustine Bizimungu was recently seen in Paris.
    - Rwandan Hutu militants in eastern Zaire have stepped up their attacks on western relief agencies as part of a campaign to torpedo the return home of the refugees, UNHCR says.
  - 12 At least 100 people are reported killed in a raid on Kanama in Rwanda near the border with Zaire. The raid deals a blow to U.N. efforts to repatriate Rwandan refugees.
  - 13 Zaire closes its Goma border crossing after the attack on Kanama.
  - 14 Zaire reopens its border with Rwanda but only for Hutu refugees crossing back into Rwanda.
  - 15 A Western ambassador declares that the international community no longer believes the Rwandan government really wants to stop killings by the army nor that it wants the refugees to come back.
  - 18 Authorities in Zaire impose a night-time curfew in Goma, following a series of attacks on the border with Rwanda.
    - The first French official to visit Rwanda since last year's genocidal civil war has unscheduled talks with Paul Kagame, which are described by French sources as very positive.
  - 19 According to UNHCR, Rwandan and Zairian ministers are to meet in Geneva the following week to discuss accelerating repatriation of refugees who must go by year-end.
  - 21 The OAU welcomes former U.S. president Jimmy Carter's plan to discuss with African leaders how to end conflicts in Rwanda and Burundi.
  - 22 About 50 to 60 percent of the refugees might return but there is still a remaining 40 to 50 percent who will probably never go back, according to Shaharyar Khan.
  - 26 In Geneva, Zaire's Foreign Minister, Rwanda's Rehabilitation and Social Integration Minister Patrick Mazimhaka, and Mrs. Ogata express commitment to ensure the return of the refugees in an organized and safe manner.
  - 27 Zairian Foreign Minister tells the General Assembly his country can no longer cope alone with the refugee burden and calls for international assistance.
    - Rwandan Rehabilitation Minister confirms Zaire will forcibly evict all Rwandan refugees who fail to leave its soil by December 31.
  - 29 Rwanda arrests and jails nine officers and soldiers in its first action on army killings of 110 Hutu villagers in Kanama.
  - 30 Zairian President pledges not to intervene militarily in Rwanda or Burundi despite the growing crisis in the region, former U.S. president Jimmy Carter tells journalists in Portugal.
- Oct. 2 Hutu rebels are getting more organized in cross-border raids into Rwanda to destabilize the government, U.N. officials say.
  - Tanzania forcibly expels 37 Rwandan Hutu refugees, increasing fears they might force tens of thousands home.
- 5 Zaire welcomes a \$108 million humanitarian aid package from the European Development Fund as a gesture of confidence in Kengo Wa Dondo's economic reforms.

- 11 The UNHCR hopes to lure 600,000 refugees home with confidence-building cross-border visits and an information campaign to fight Hutu extremist propaganda.  
Rwanda urges the U.N. to speed up the repatriation of Rwandan refugees before the year-end deadline set by Zaire; but talks between senior officials of the two countries and the UNHCR in the border town of Gisenyi are tense and fail to resolve the issue. "We need to ensure that refugees return in security and dignity," Rehabilitation Minister Patrick Mazimhaka declares. "The return of refugees should be accelerated in a very orderly manner."
- 13 Zaire, after two days of talks with Rwanda and UNHCR in Gisenyi, agrees to neutralize extremists scaring refugees from going home. A joint statement indicates the crisis would drag on if concrete deeds did not follow the talks, which ended on 12 October. Rwandan Rehabilitation Minister confirms that Rwanda is ready to handle 20,000 returnees daily by increasing the number of crossings and transit centers along its border.
- 18 The RDR accuses UNHCR of collusion with Zairian troops using strong-arm methods to force the Hutu refugees to return home.
- 19 WFP officials declare that Rwandan refugees in Zaire would face hunger back home because of lack of food if Zairian troops resume mass expulsions.
- 20 Accelerated repatriation is matched by a growing insurgency by Hutu militants in western Rwanda.
- 23 Mobutu Sese Seko takes the podium at the U.N. General Assembly.
- 29 Some 2,330 inmates have died from disease over the past 15 months in Rwanda's jails, where the government holds 57,000 genocide suspects with no sign of a date for their trials, Red Cross officials say.
- 30 Hutu extremists have struck 50 times inside Rwanda this month, claiming an equal number of lives, U.N. observers report.
- Nov. 1 At least two western relief agencies suspend operations in a Rwandan refugee camp and villages in Zaire after an American aid worker lost both legs in a mine blast, but her own agency confirms it will continue its work.
- 2 Rwanda opens an international conference on genocide with a pledge to do more to reconcile its rival Hutu and Tutsi tribes and an appeal for Western help.
- 9 Major-General Paul Kagame appeals to Zaire to curb Hutu guerrillas staging cross-border attacks, but rules out any Rwandan military incursion to deal with the threat.
- 15 Zaire accuses Rwanda of being behind a network responsible for a bombing campaign in the Kivu region.
- 19 Violence in the border area leads local Zairian officers to close the border.
- 21 Zaire tells Jimmy Carter it might relax an end of year deadline for a million Rwandan refugees to leave or be thrown out, diplomats said. Carter himself tells reporters the Dec. 31 deadline is not realistic and hints that Zairian authorities might scrap it if UNHCR speeds up voluntary repatriation, adding that instead the aim is to send home some 6,000 refugees per day starting from now.  
Carter announces his plan to organize a summit in Cairo from November 27 to December 2 grouping the heads of state of Tanzania, Zaire, Rwanda, Burundi, and Uganda, reportedly with the help of the U.N., the U.S., and the European Union.
- 22 The U.N. recommends that two international observers be based permanently in Zaire to monitor human rights abuses.
- 24 UNHCR begins an operation to register some 14,000 soldiers of Rwanda's former Hutu army and their families camping in Eastern Zaire, but many of the men refuse to accept UNHCR's condition for registration - that they first denounce their military status.
- 26 Shaharyar Khan expects the peacekeeping force to leave upon expiry of its mandate, barring last-minute negotiations with the government.  
In Zaire, President Mobutu dismisses as impracticable a Zairian government deadline for Rwandan and Burundian refugees to leave his country by the end of the year. Mobutu declares that enforcing the deadline would harm Zaire's image abroad.
- 30 Carter says that no refugees would be forcibly returned to Rwanda, but UNHCR in Kigali

- doubts the Cairo agreement can be implemented without some forced repatriations.
- In Cairo, Rwandan President signs an accord with four other African states to speed up the return of the Rwandan refugees in Zaire and Tanzania and to get most of them home in three months.
- Rwanda also agrees to extend by three months the mandate of a 1,800-strong U.N. peacekeeping force expiring on December 8.
- Rwanda stresses that Zaire must follow words with deeds to separate killers from the innocent in camps following this week's accord.
- Jimmy Carter says the accord, signed by leaders of Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda, Tanzania, and Zaire, envisages a repatriation at a rate rising to 10,000 refugees a day "within a short time."
- Dec. 2 Rwanda's President attacks France, accusing it of having had a hand in 1994's genocide and still wanting to control the central African country.
- Pasteur Bizimungu declares that the 1,800 U.N. peacekeepers in Rwanda should leave when their mandate expires December 8, but adds that he is prepared to discuss a modified role for the U.N. mission. "What came out of Cairo was Carter's wishful thinking. We never agreed to automatically extending the present mandate," says a senior government official. Bizimungu maintains that no timetable for repatriation of Rwandan refugees in Zaire was discussed in Cairo.
- 4 Armed men in uniform kill 20 Rwandans, mostly women and children, in a settlement in the southwestern Nyungwe forest.
- 5 Boutros Boutros-Ghali believes U.N. peacekeepers should leave Rwanda shortly because the Kigali government doesn't want them. In a report to the SC, the Secretary-General indicates the Rwandan government officially informed him that it would not extend the U.N. Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR), when its mandate expires later during the week.
- Four people are killed and at least 31 wounded when their bus hit an anti-tank mine near a Rwandan refugee camp in eastern Zaire.
- 6 Kengo wa Dondo announces his government's willingness to extend its end-of-year deadline for Rwandan refugees to leave but adds that the risk of local people driving them out remains.
- UN special envoy Shaharyar Khan accuses Zaire and Tanzania of giving political support to "intimidators" in refugee camps.
- 7 Western aid workers prepare to leave Rwanda, a day after the government ordered 38 foreign relief agencies to leave and 18 others to suspend work pending further investigation.
- 9 A Rwandan official accuses the SC of lying and trying to interfere in its security by insisting on maintaining U.N. troops whose mandate expired on 8 December. In New York, the SC and Rwanda fail to agree on a new mandate for the peacekeeping force and postponed for four days a decision on its size and composition.
- 13 A Hutu colonel in Rwanda's government army who had fought in the bush alongside former Tutsi rebels has defected to Zaire, Zairian military sources indicate.
- Zairian forces send reinforcements into the Masisi region after fighting between Rwandan refugees and members of a local tribe.
- 23 Rwanda criticizes Boutros Boutros-Ghali for warning that the central African nation could descend into genocide again if the refugee crisis is not solved.
- 27 Six Zairian soldiers and an unknown number of civilians die in Goma after attackers killed a colonel, triggering a rampage by troops.
- 29 UNHCR indicates that Rwanda has requested Sadako Ogata to recall her special representative for central Africa's Great Lakes region. The letter, handed over by the Minister for Rehabilitation at a December 20 meeting with UNHCR, accuses Carrol Faubert of hindering the repatriation of the refugees from camps in Zaire, Burundi, and Tanzania by displaying in his actions and remarks a negative and sometime aggressive attitude to Kigali's policy in this respect.
- Zairian troops will begin acting in the next two months against Hutu extremists in the first Rwandan refugee camps scheduled for closure, a UNHCR official indicates.
- 30 Zaire has arrested Rwandan Hutus who were trying to prevent refugees from going home, a government official declares. Mr. Mutiri reaffirms Zaire's intention to close the refugee camps, which are creating an environmental and social disaster on its eastern borders with Rwanda.

Mutiri indicates that a new round of talks involving Zaire, Rwanda and UNHCR would take place in Kinshasa the following week to determine when and how to start closing the camps.

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- Jan. 1 Rwandan President reports about 1,000 infiltrators have been arrested by security forces.
- 2 The RDR accuses UNHCR of secretly supporting the forced repatriation of Rwandan refugees and being behind arrests in eastern Zaire.  
Two people are killed and one wounded when a truck hits a landmine in eastern Zaire.
- 4 Zaire is ready to hand over to the new government military equipment and other property belonging to the Rwandan regime ousted in the 1994 civil war, Rwandan officials say.  
They also indicate that President Mobutu told them in their talks that 33 extremist Rwandan Hutu refugees have been arrested by Zairian authorities.
- 5 UNHCR denies that it has agreed with Zaire to a voluntary repatriation plan for Rwandan refugees that would target specific groups to return home.  
Zaire also denies it wants to start returning the refugees by force.
- 12 U.N. member states have displayed a "schizophrenic attitude" toward Rwanda, voicing support for an operation to monitor human rights there but failing to fund it, a U.N. spokeswoman says.
- 21 The Rwandan government must improve conditions for the tens of thousands of people crammed into overcrowded prisons on suspicion of involvement in genocide, Envoy Madeleine Albright declares in a meeting with President Pasteur Bizimungu and Vice-President Maj. Gen. Paul Kagame.
- 28 Two ministers from Rwanda and Burundi team up over the weekend to fly to a camp in Burundi and try to persuade thousands of Rwandan Hutu refugees that they have nothing to fear from returning home.
- 30 The European Union declares it will send a special envoy to the Great Lakes region in Africa to step up its role in helping to restore peace in the region.
- Feb. 2 Rwanda condemns Zaire for blocking the work of a U.N. commission investigating reports of illicit arms supplies to ex-government soldiers.
- 5 to 11 Civilians are killed in northwestern Rwanda near Zaire's border after an attack by unidentified gunmen who blew up an electricity pylon.
- 8 UNHCR trusts Zairian forces will stay out of Rwandan refugee camps despite Rwandan officials' fears they would be forcibly emptied.
- 9 Zaire's defense and interior ministers leave for the Rwandan refugee areas amid suggestions that the Zairian government is poised to resume forcible repatriation.  
Zaire tells UNHCR it plans to "administratively close" two camps – Kibumba and Kashusha – to revive flagging voluntary repatriation.
- 11 Suspected Hutu extremists have slipped out of refugee camps in Zaire and are setting up a stronghold in the interior, especially Masisi, killing and driving Tutsi residents away. The witnesses, members of Tutsi minority that settled in eastern Zaire decades ago, declare they have been forced to flee over the border into Rwanda to escape marauding Hutus.
- 12 Zairian officials are expected to meet Rwandan Hutu refugee leaders in Goma to ask them to prepare their people for a voluntary return to their homeland.
- 13 Zairian commandos and guards are deployed around Kibumba, and refugees leaders say they will ignore the Zairian campaign to pressure them to return home "voluntarily".  
Zaire hands over to the Rwandan government rusting artillery pieces, troop carriers, arms, and ammunition seized from fleeing former Hutu government troops at the end of Rwanda's 1994 genocide. Rwandan officials and army officers are disappointed by the collection given to them by Zaire's defense minister in a ceremony in no man's land on the Rwandan-Zairian border.
- 14 Fewer Zairian troops are on the edges of Kibumba camp, a day after some 250 refugees moved in. "Even if 30 or 40 percent of the refugees came back, that would be a big success," Shaharyar Khan, U.N. special envoy to Rwanda, tells journalists; "the remainder won't come back anyway because they would face charges in Rwanda for the genocide".

- 15 Zairian troops arrest 15 Rwandan refugees alleged to be intimidating fellow refugees to stop them from returning home.  
A summit to try to resolve the humanitarian crisis in Rwanda and Burundi will be held next month, possibly in Tunis, a spokeswoman for former U.S. President Jimmy Carter reports.
  - 16 Zairian troops surround a second refugee camp in eastern Zaire, stepping up pressure, as UNHCR warns the Rwandan refugees that this is their last chance for voluntary repatriation.  
European Humanitarian Aid Commissioner Emma Bonino warns against ill-prepared attempts to repatriate Rwandan refugees forcibly from Zaire, saying it could result in violence and abuse of human rights.
  - 17 Zaire presses ahead with its program for closing refugee camps, and extends a ban on businesses to taxis and buses.
  - 20 Amnesty International warns that a forced return of hundreds of thousands of refugees to Rwanda and Burundi could be followed by mass arrests and executions without trial.
  - 21 Zaire outlaws the RDR, which is suspected of obstructing a massive drive to send home refugees from camps in Zaire.
  - 22 A UNHCR survey carried out recently in Goma's four largest camps lists nearly 82,000 enterprises, including 2,324 bars, 450 restaurants, 589 shops, 62 hairdressers, 51 pharmacies, 30 tailors, 25 butchers, five ironsmiths, four photographic studios, three cinemas, two hotels and one abattoir.  
Zaire plans to start closing Rwandan refugee camps on its territory in early March, its interior minister announces, which confuses observers regarding the deployment of troops around camps.  
Rwandan Prime Minister Pierre-Celestin Rwigema condemns Amnesty International's report.
  - 26 Zaire expels two U.S. nationals, accusing them of teaching the refugees passive resistance.
  - 27 A cabinet reshuffle in Zaire appoints a new interior minister who is a strong advocate of mass repatriation of the refugees.
- Mar.
- 1 An angry mob tries to lynch a Hutu refugee returning to the Rwandan capital Kigali on a UNHCR-sponsored visit, accusing him of taking part in the 1994 genocide.  
The troops, who had surrounded Kibumba camp near the border town of Goma, leave because they have not been paid.
  - 3 Anastasa Gasana declares that refugees in Zaire are unlikely to return voluntarily and that force must be used because they are victims of intimidators.  
The SC agrees to the withdrawal of the U.N. force in Rwanda, but votes unanimously to retain a U.N. office to help revive the country.
  - 8 UNAMIR ends its operation in Rwanda.
  - 9 In a communiqué, the RDR notes that the U.N. withdrawal "will dash any hope of a quick and voluntary repatriation of the refugees."
  - 14 Rwanda has modest hopes of progress at a summit next weekend in Tunis on conflict and the refugee crisis in the Great Lakes region of central Africa.
  - 16 Jimmy Carter's African summit on the twin crises in Rwanda and Burundi starts despite ruffled feathers in the U.N. and OAU and protests from refugees and rebels who are not invited.
  - 18 The Tunis meeting ends with solemn pledges.
  - 19 Jimmy Carter argues strongly that his summit made clear progress and predicts a sharp increase in the number of refugees willing to go home.
  - 22 A U.N. panel accuses the Zairian government of either helping or turning a blind eye to arms smuggling to former Rwandan army officers attempting to recapture power in Kigali. The six-member commission also indicates that Zaire has obstructed its work and given misleading and inadequate statements, claiming it had no knowledge of any misdeeds in Goma.  
Rwandan government soldiers rape two Hutu women at a transit camp, after they returned from refugee camps.
  - 23 The military and government authorities of Gisenyi region order an overnight curfew and announce plans to start issuing new identity cards in border districts to try to catch infiltrators from Zaire.
  - 29 Rwandan PM states that the most important step towards national reconciliation between Hutus and Tutsis is the return of all refugees.

- The Rwandan government also urges the SC to approve sanctions against countries that fail to cooperate with the commission investigating illegal arms supplies to the ex-Rwandan army.
- 31 UNHCR shows videos, accompanied by billboards and photographs, at information centers set up in camps in Zaire. The information campaign will run six days a week.
- Apr. 1 One person is killed and two badly wounded when a truck hits a land mine in southwest Rwanda near the border with Zaire.
- 3 A joint European-U.S. aid mission to central Africa calls for international pressure on the governments of Burundi and Rwanda to keep hardliners in check.
- 6 Paul Kagame is tired of endless talk of the presence of Hutu refugees outside his country and condemns Zaire for not doing enough to send them home. Zaire in return accuses Rwanda of bad faith on the second anniversary of the start of the genocide.
- 9 The USAID top official suggests that a deadline should be set for closing camps for refugees from Rwanda and Burundi.
- 11 34 people are killed in a village in western Rwanda in fighting between government troops and Hutu infiltrators.
- More than 40,000 Zairians of Rwandan origin have been expelled over the last two years from eastern Zaire to Rwanda, where nearly 1,000 arrived on 10 April.
- 22 Under a doctrine of "imposed return," refugees could be sent back "to less than optimal conditions in their home country" against their will, the UNHCR director of international protection says at a recent meeting with refugee analysts. Imposed return has become necessary because of pressure from host states and a lack of money to care for refugees.
- 23 The SC adopts Resolution 1053 (1996) on the International Commission of Inquiry and agrees that it should continue probing into weapons allegedly shipped to former Rwandan soldiers. Uganda's defense ministry condemns the attack on a military border post in the southwest by Zaire-based "bandits" from Rwanda's majority Hutu tribe, killing six people. Rwandan government troops are reportedly called in to help the Ugandan forces repel the attack.
- 26 President Mobutu hails as "courageous" France's decision to resume aid to his country, suspended five years before.
- 29 Rwandan government troops kill 19 men in a northwestern village after a prison escape in which an army guard is shot dead.
- May 2 Jimmy Carter requests but is denied a U.S. visa for President Mobutu Sese Seko for him to take part in a meeting of African leaders in Atlanta.
- 7 Around 65,000 people have fled ethnic violence in eastern Zaire in the past few weeks and thousands of them are still on the move.
- 11 Zairian soldiers arrest a well-known Rwandan Hutu singer who used to preach racial hatred.
- 12 Tension rises in Goma region after gunmen, with rocket-propelled grenades, ambush a western aid convoy near a refugee camp, killing 13 people and wounding 13 others.
- 16 About 10 people believed to be Rwandan Tutsis are killed, 30 are wounded, and 60 are listed as missing in an attack on a monastery in the Masisi area.
- 20 Armed men in uniform kill a Zairian aid worker in an attack near a refugee camp. The RDR accuses UNHCR of human rights violations stemming from arrests of refugees on charges of intimidation.
- 21 At least 37 prisoners are killed when infiltrators attack a jail near Rwanda's southwestern border with Burundi.
- 22 Unidentified attackers kill about 100 Tutsis in eastern Zaire and at least 3,000 more Tutsis are surrounded in two villages.
- 24 Rwanda and Burundi agree with neighboring countries to speed up the voluntary return home of the refugees. UNHCR says agreed measures include stepping up a mass information campaign to counter propaganda as well as the "separation of intimidators" in the refugee camps. The agency issues the statement after hosting a one-day meeting of regional officials to monitor implementation of an accord reached in Bujumbura in February 1995.
- 27 17 people, including six children, are killed over the weekend in Rwanda's southern regions.
- 28 Carter arrives in Brussels to brief European officials on his efforts to organize a U.N.-overseen conference on deep ethnic divisions in the central African countries of Rwanda and Burundi.

- More than 1,000 Tutsis pour into Rwanda, fleeing people they described as machete-wielding Hutu militiamen responsible for carving out a Hutu enclave in the Masisi area of eastern Zaire.
- June 2 Zairian soldiers close Goma airport after unidentified gunmen killed several of their comrades in an ambush near a refugee camp – the third ambush on the same road in a month.
- 4 Goma airport reopens.
- 6 Rwanda state radio announces that 16 people have been arrested for attempting to poison officials, soldiers, and survivors of the 1994 genocide.
- Mobutu Sese Seko agrees to the deployment of U.N. officials in eastern Zaire to monitor Possible violations of an embargo on arms exports to Rwandan extremists.
- 11 The Ugandan military deny its troops attacked a Zairian border town and killed 30 people.
- 14 Amnesty International urges Zairian authorities to protect tens of thousands of people forced from their homes by attacks throughout eastern Zaire.
- 19 The government of Rwanda seeks \$800 million in foreign aid in Geneva, but several donors are reluctant.
- 20 The world's errors in Cambodia 20 years ago, when aid to refugees in Thailand helped sustain the Khmer Rouge, must not be repeated in Rwanda, a senior USAID official declares. In a speech to a major donors' conference in Geneva, the official also accuses Zaire of "providing an unfettered corridor for arms shipments" to Hutu refugees in camps on its territory.
- Rwanda begins issuing new passports, thereby rendering worthless thousands of old passports held by refugees or other persons in exile.
- 21 Suspected Hutu militiamen kill at least 21 genocide survivors in an attack in western Rwanda on a lakeside village facing Zaire.
- 26 Suspected Hutu rebels kill eight members of a family of survivors of Rwanda's 1994 genocide and a local official in Rwanda.
- 27 Tutsis from Zaire who have fled to Rwanda to escape the violence in Masisi confirm the view of UNHCR, which recently declared the emergence of this "Hutuland" was "increasingly visible". Unidentified attackers killed 27 people near Gisenyi.
- 28 Unidentified gunmen kill eight people, including two Zairian army officers, in an attack on a Zairian base near Kibumba.
- 29 A Hutu rebel group offers a \$ 1,000 bounty for the head of every American killed in Rwanda, and \$ 1,500 for that of U.S. Ambassador to Kigali.
- July 4 Large scale trouble is brewing in eastern Zaire, where persistent insecurity and the unbridled activities of Hutu hardliners are undermining efforts to solve the Rwandan refugee crisis, UNHCR Goma says.
- 14 At least 62 people were killed the previous week when Rwanda's army carried out an operation against Hutu insurgents in the Gisenyi region, western aid workers report.
- 25 Rwanda's army killed well over 100 people in search operations for Hutu rebels during an eight-day period, U.N. human rights workers report.
- 27 Zaire steps up security checks on aid consignments after alleging it has found a consignment of weapons for the Rwandan government army in a cargo plane chartered by aid organizations.
- Aug. 9 Thousands of Rwandan Hutu refugees in Burundi are going home in the largest movement since they fled during Rwanda's genocide.
- Rwanda suspends road and air links with Burundi, joining other East and central African states in sanctions against Burundi.
- 22 U.N. human rights monitors report a large rise in killings by "state agents" in Rwanda last month, as the number of prisoners and detainees reach nearly 80,000.
- The two heads of government (Kengo and Rwigema) decide to make operational the organized, massive, and unconditional repatriation of all Rwandan refugees," says a statement read by Kengo.
- 23 "Nobody [in Rwanda] is advocating an abrupt return of the refugees. The return should be orderly, decent and well-organized because not even powerful America can afford to take in one million people at once," Ndahiro [assistant to Kagame] reports.
- 24 Zaire expels 28 Rwandan Hutus from refugee camps and Rwandan authorities jail 17 of them,

- according to a spokesman for Rwanda's army states.
- 28 Rwanda Rehabilitation Minister hopes large numbers of the refugees in Zaire will not start returning home until after high-level talks in about three months time.  
An armed Hutu movement, the Interior Resistance Front (FRI), claims to have killed more than 100 Rwandan government troops in several operations.
- Sept. 3 UNHCR census-takers in refugee camps in Zaire face a boycott by refugees.  
9 The International Federation of the Red Cross suspends operations in the refugee camps after a landmine blast kills three staff.  
15 Zairian troops battle Tutsis in eastern Zaire.  
17 A U.S. congressman declares that stopping feeding Rwandan refugees is one way to make them go home and suggests a U.N. force to escort them across the border.  
19 Zairian soldiers beat up two U.N. staff members after a television program reporting that UNHCR is helping armed Rwandans infiltrate across the border. Boutros Boutros-Ghali decides to send a special emissary to Kinshasa about the country's televised accusations against U.N. staff.  
20 Zaire suspends operations of the International Organization for Migration (IOM).  
24 U.N. agencies start evacuating non-essential staff from Bukavu following heavy exchanges of gunfire overnight between the Rwandan army and Zairian forces.  
UNHCR announces it is excluding from refugee status 20 Rwandans indicted by the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and believed to be living in Europe and Africa. Zairian soldiers in the east execute 40 men from the Tutsi ethnic group known as the Banyamulenge, an official from their community reports.  
Zaire and Rwanda call an end to two days of artillery exchanges across their common border.  
27 The Rwandan army resumes machinegun and mortar fire over the border into eastern Zaire, aid officials report; but a Rwandan military spokesman denies the report.  
28 Zaire states that infiltrators from Rwanda killed at least 35 people and wounded three this month during cross-border attacks.  
29 U.N. aid officials meet in Geneva to review the legal status of the Rwandan refugees.
- Oct. 3 Foreign Minister Kititwa Tumansi signals the U.N. General Assembly in New York that his government's patience is running out. "Zaire is always prepared to cooperate with ... Rwanda and Burundi ... to ensure the voluntary and dignified return of refugees, ... [f]ailing which ... Zaire will have no choice but to proceed to enforced and unconditional return of refugees to their countries of origin."  
8 UNHCR presents a plan to close down gradually Rwandan refugee camps in Zaire and Tanzania.  
10 Assistant U.S. Secretary of State Phyllis Oakley mentions that a consensus is emerging among donor countries and in states of Africa's Great Lakes region to accelerate repatriation of Rwandan refugees.  
11 U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher declares it is safe for Hutu refugees to return to Rwanda and that the camps in Tanzania and Zaire, especially those closest to the border with Rwanda, must be closed.  
12 Zaire welcomes a U.S. call for the closure of refugee camps, adding it is now up to international agencies to help avert forced repatriation.  
14 South Kivu Deputy Governor Lwasi Ngabo Lwabanji, who gave some 200,000 Tutsis of the Banyamulenge clans a week to leave, with a deadline of 15 October, says he was told by telephone he has been suspended.  
18 The European Union favors action to close camps in eastern Zaire.  
19 Some 46,000 Rwandan and Burundian Hutu refugees flee two camps in eastern Zaire where the Zairian army is battling Banyamulenge.  
21 Almost a quarter million Rwandan and Burundian Hutu refugees abandon all their 12 camps around the Zairian town of Uvira, where the army continues to fight against the Banyamulenge.  
23 U.S. officials say they are still struggling – but making progress – with efforts to put together an all-African force of up to 10,000 troops that could react to such in the future. The aim is not to intervene between warring parties but to meet humanitarian needs of civilians.

- 24 Zaire appeals to the U.N. SC over what it terms "external aggression" in its eastern region. The State Department renews calls for an end to the fighting, in which the Banyamulenge advance has uprooted nearly 300,000 Rwandan and Burundian refugees.
- 25 UNHCR tells Rwandan refugees in eastern Zaire to return home, as heavy shelling rocks the city of Uvira.  
Banyamulenge rebels say that opponents to the Zairian government have joined them to bring Kivu under control and oust Mobutu.  
Boutros Boutros-Ghali calls for an international conference to prevent warfare in Zaire from spreading throughout the central African region.
- 26 Kibumba is attacked and hit with mortar fire; over 200,000 refugees flee towards Goma and are directed by the Zairian army towards Mugunga camp.
- 27 Unknown attackers fire on Katale camp but are repelled.
- 29 The last foreign aid workers leave Bukavu by plane, as mortar and machinegun fire blast to the south of the town.  
President Pasteur Bizimungu strongly denies that Rwandan troops have invaded Zaire to fight alongside the Tutsi rebels.  
One million people could die in Zaire, Emma Bonino, the European Union's humanitarian aid commissioner, declares, calling for swift action from a world she accuses of standing aloof from the unfolding tragedy.  
U.S. officials state Washington has little leverage over the situation. USAID Administrator Atwood and other officials acknowledge that Zaire's disintegration would have grave consequences for regional stability. In such a case, State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns declares, the U.S. would "obviously react" but has not considered what that reaction might be.  
UNHCR appeals for urgent Western satellite pictures to trace hundreds of thousands of refugees who could face death as they flee ethnic conflict in eastern Zaire.
- 30 The EU publicly proposes that the OAU lead a force to monitor and protect refugees, with logistical support from the EU.  
In New York, U.N. sources mention the U.N. is set to appoint Canada's ambassador to Washington as its new representative to deal with the crisis in eastern Zaire.  
Rwandan Ambassador Manzi Bakuramatusa appeals for the international community not to treat the crisis simply as a humanitarian problem and calls on Belgium to take the lead as present events, he states, are the consequences of the past.  
Bukavu falls to the Banyamulenge.
- 31 Paul Kagame warns that all-out war with Zaire is increasingly likely, after Rwandan troops raided eastern Zaire in retaliation for cross-border shelling.  
Tutsi fighters seize Goma airport.  
UNHCR says some 115,000 refugees fled from Kahindo after fighting and are heading south towards Mugunga camp, already overflowing with 400,000 people.  
French Defense Minister Charles Millon calls for the U.N. SC to take immediate action on the crisis in eastern Zaire.  
President Nelson Mandela declares that South Africa is prepared to play a role in troubled central Africa, but he did not say what form this might take.
- Nov. 1 Fighting continues between Katale and the now-empty Kahindo camp.  
Rwandan troops enter Goma by lake and land to assist Tutsi rebels fighting to capture it, diplomats confirm.
- 2 The town of Goma falls; the U.N. evacuates its foreign staff.
- 4 France proposes urgent talks with the U.S., its European partners, and Africa on an action plan to restore security in the area.  
The rebels announce a cease-fire in eastern Zaire.
- 5 The parties in the (newly-created) alliance are Kabila's Popular Revolutionary Party (PRP), the National Council of Resistance for Democracy (NCRD) led by Kissante Ngandu, the Revolutionary Movement for the Liberation of Zaire (RMLZ) led by Mosasa Minitaga, and the People's Democratic Alliance (PDA) led by Robert Bugera. None of these men seems to have

strong home constituencies. The Alliance says it is committed to a free-market economic system and a pluralist political set-up.

- 6 Efforts to help refugees reach a stalemate, with Zaire telling aid agencies to keep out of Kivu or send aid directly into Rwanda and the U.N. saying many lives are at risk.
- 7 Sadako Ogata urges a neutral force to be sent by the West to set up safe routes to deliver aid through fighting. With U.N. approval, France and Spain are ready to send 1,000 men each as part of a 5,000-man force.
- 8 Rwanda opposes troops from France and Belgium in the multinational force (MNF).
- 9 Calls for immediate foreign intervention are blocked by resistance from the U.S., which stalls SC action on a military mission. While the French and German proposals to send troops have strong support in the Council, the U.S. asserts it still holds out hope for a cease-fire that would allow aid operations to resume without outside military protection. "We are confronted by a new genocide," Boutros-Ghali tells reporters, "I will call it genocide by starvation."
- 10 Kengo wa Dondo insists that any food or medical aid brought in must first go through Kinshasa.
- 11 The U.S. and Britain back away farther from the French-supported military option, citing its imprecise goals.

Underlining the reluctance of countries to become involved, only nine foreign ministers of the 17 member states of the OAU's conflict committee attend the one-day session in the Ethiopian capital.

Foreign Minister Herve de Charette states that there is no conflict of interest between France and the U.S. in Africa.
- 12 Canada steps forward with an offer to lead a multinational force to secure food aid and passage for the refugees scattered by three weeks of violence in eastern Zaire.

"The refugees are the source of many problems," Mobutu tells a television interviewer in France; "So everyone should go home and each government take the responsibility of looking after its citizens," he adds.

U.S. government sends 40 military personnel to central Africa to assess the situation.
- 14 President Clinton speaks with PM Jean Chretien of Canada and sets conditions for US cooperation with a multinational force.

France hopes the first troops will be in place by 16-17 November.

Eritrea, one of only seven African states that have tentatively agreed to join the force, backs out.

A U.S. military assessment team of 37 arrives in Kigali from Uganda to prepare for the dispatch of U.S. troops.
- 15 Rwanda's ambassador urges the U.N. SC to postpone approval of a multinational force for eastern Zaire, as Mugunga is attacked and hundreds of thousands of refugees are heading back to Rwanda.
- 16 The U.N. SC approves the deployment of a Canadian-led multinational force to provide relief to refugees in eastern Zaire and ensure their safe return home. The intervention force will be deployed under section 7 of the U.N. Charter that allows a multinational intervention in the face of a threat to international peace and security. More than 20 countries offer to contribute over 10,000 troops; the main body of the force would come from Britain, Canada, France, and the U.S.; but U.S. Ambassador Madeleine Albright warns that "outstanding questions concerning the organization and operation of the mission" must be worked out before Washington can give a firm commitment to participate in the force. U.N. military sources say the first contingents of the intervention force could be on the ground as early as next week. The humanitarian operation will be completed by March 31 but a U.N. follow-on force will be created, although the mandate and duration of that mission have yet to be determined.

President Bill Clinton arrives in Hawaii for three days of vacation to rest up before a trip to Australia.

Sadako Ogata is delighted at the mass return of refugees, and pledges to help them resume normal lives. By nightfall, some 200,000 refugees had arrived at Gisenyi.
- 20 Zaire's rebels vow to take their military offensive all the way to the capital Kinshasa, now that Rwandan refugees are no longer impeding them.
- 21 Eighteen countries have been implicated by U.N. investigators for selling arms to Rwanda's

former Hutu military forces.

- 22 The U.S. halts reconnaissance flights over eastern Zaire Thursday amid a heated international debate over how many refugees remain stranded in the countryside in need of assistance. The confusion reigns on the eve of a meeting in Stuttgart, Germany that will consider what role, if any, a multinational force should play in dealing with the humanitarian crisis.  
Officials at the U.S. Committee for Refugees acknowledge a clash of views with other aid agencies on the refugee crisis in eastern Zaire.  
Ethiopia will participate in a multinational force to help refugees in Zaire only if its mandate also includes the separation of Rwandan Hutu militias and troops from them, Prime Minister Meles Zenawi warns.
  - 24 Military planners meet in Stuttgart to discuss the deployment of MNF.
  - 25 Zaire voices astonishment at the international community's foot-dragging over sending a multinational force to the Great Lakes region.
  - 30 Museveni advises Lieutenant General Baril "to concentrate on humanitarian aid and avoid being drawn into internal regional conflicts".
- Dec.
- 1 Ugandan troops enter the town of Beni, north of Goma.
  - 2 The U.N. special envoy for the Great Lakes region, Raymond Chretien, stresses that a multinational humanitarian force must be deployed in eastern Zaire to help refugees.  
Planned international humanitarian intervention in Zaire is merely a "pretext" to support President Mobutu, Paul Kagame asserts in an interview.
  - 9 An estimated 15,000 Rwandan refugees in Tanzania have abandoned two camps and are retreating farther from the border with Rwanda, UNHCR reports. The week before, Tanzania stressed it wanted the estimated 500,000 refugees, most of them Rwandan Hutus, to return home to Rwanda by the end of the month.
  - 12 The multinational force, several hundred strong and headed by Canada's army commander, Lieutenant General Maurice Baril, is stationed in Kampala, with its operational wing at the Ugandan capital's airport at Entebbe, but its negotiations on dropping supplies from planes or setting up ground corridors are still at a dead end. The force's 14-nation steering committee is due to meet in New York on 13 December to discuss the rationale for continuing its mission.
  - 16 France expresses regret at the collapse of the multinational task force for eastern Zaire, but stresses that aid groups still have an essential role to play in the region.
  - 24 The U.N. SC is preparing to approve the appointment of a U.N. special envoy to Africa's Great Lakes region.
  - 31 More than 480,000 Rwandan refugees have returned home from Tanzania since the beginning of December, leaving some 50,000 still in the country.  
The final 16 Canadian military personnel assigned to the multinational force leave Uganda. Their departure formally ends an international mission that never really got started.