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Dozens Die At Camps In Rwanda

Refugees Are Caught In Gunfire and Panic

By DONATELLA LORCH

KIBEHO, Rwanda, April 22 — Dozens were killed and hundreds were wounded today when Rwandan Government forces opened fire on a makeshift camp here where tens of thousands of ethnic Hutu displaced in the recent civil war had been moved in the past few days.

There was no firm death toll. Loose estimates were expected to rise overnight as medical workers and family members sorted through the carnage.

It was unclear how the shooting began. But the gunfire quickly ignited panic in the crowded hillside encampment, with Hutu militiamen also firing at Government forces and at United Nations troops, Australian medical officers with the United Nations force here said.

The gun battle began just before noon and lasted five hours, with Rwandan soldiers chasing people through the fields and into the hills and shooting them with automatic weapons. Thousands of Rwandans fled the site, clogging the muddy roads toward Gikongoro, the main town in this southwestern region.

The heavy rains and crowds made it difficult for aid workers to reach the area by car, and the only access was by United Nations helicopter.

The shooting here resumed again at nightfall, with volleys of gunfire setting off a human flood in all directions. Shooting also erupted around United Nations helicopters lifting off with the wounded.

"We couldn't get to many of the wounded because of the gunfire," said Capt. Carol Vaughan-Evans, a

doctor with the Australian Medical Corps who helped evacuate about two dozen seriously wounded Rwandans. "It's like a chicken shoot. They go running after them and shoot. About four soldiers run after one guy and then shoot him. It's horrible."

The Rwandan refugees, all members of the Hutu ethnic majority, had begun gathering on the hillside earlier this week after the Government started closing down camps sheltering more than 150,000 people.

The camps were set up last summer by the French military as part of a safe area for Hutu fleeing an advancing rebel Tutsi army. Human rights and United Nations officials say many of those Hutu were involved in the ethnic massacres last year that left half a million Rwandans, mostly Tutsi, dead.

Since last summer the majority of the Hutu have refused to leave the camps, saying that they feared reprisals from Government soldiers. The Government countered that the camps were a destabilizing force because they were home to thousands of armed Hutu militiamen.

Rwanda's Government and army have been dominated by ethnic Tutsi since a Tutsi-led rebel front won the civil war last July.

When the Tutsi rebels took power last year and formed a new Government, they initially agreed to work with the United Nations to persuade the Hutu to leave the camps and return home. But they also warned that they would close down the camps if the Hutu did not comply.

The United Nations tried to get the Hutu to return home by promising them armed escorts and food supplies. When that operation failed last month, the Rwandan military said eviction was the only answer, and the forced exodus began.

Tens of thousands of Hutu have already begun the march back to their homes, and the hills around Kibeho are mostly empty, with nothing but skeletons of thatched huts, many of them burned out by the soldiers.

For those who remained, the situation grew tenser by the day. On Friday, for example, about 50,000 were huddled shoulder to shoulder on a hill here, guarded by Rwandan Tutsi soldiers. There has been little clean water, hardly any food and no shelter from the rain.

United Nations officials said they believed many of those who were refusing to leave Kibeho were involved in the massacres last year.

There were several attacks within the camp itself on Friday night, and medical officers said that they had treated scores of Hutu for machete wounds.



The New York Times

Gunfire at a camp at Kibeho kept aid workers from the wounded.



Rwandan children scramble for corn seed and beans in the filth of the Kibeho refugee camp in the south-west of the country. Nearly 1,800 Hutus who are besieged by Tutsi troops in the camp where thousands of their tribesmen were slaughtered

Besieged Hutus 'agree to leave'
Ministry said yesterday. "In principle they all agreed to go home and we are taking them at their word." Seth Sendashonga, the Interior Minister, mark a peaceful end to the stand-off in Kibeho which many feared would end in a bloodbath. Two senior army officers who commanded the opera-

killings occurred two weeks ago, have been suspended pending an investigation. Major-General Paul Kagame, the Vice-President, said, adding: "We have thought it proper to send the two men away while we investigate the conduct of their

Death camp was seen as last refuge for Rwandans

THE Kibeho camp, straddling five lush hills in Southern Rwanda, was seen as the last refuge for those fleeing last year's genocidal massacres.

While much of a panic-stricken population sought to escape by crossing into neighbouring Zaire, it was the Kibeho camp which became a sanctuary for those remaining in Rwanda.

Lured by its fame as the site where children once claimed to have seen a vision of the Virgin Mary, more than 100,000 people flocked to Kibeho, 150km south of the capital Kigali after the killings, making it the largest camp in the country.

The small church mission occupying the site was quickly overwhelmed as mainly Hutu Rwandans smothered the hillsides with makeshift huts, relying for their survival on weekly food deliveries by international aid agencies.

For almost six months following the massacres, those Rwandans at the Kibeho camp enjoyed relative peace compared to their fellow refugees.

Although the camp was crowded and filthy, it did not suffer the horrific cholera epidemics which afflicted the larger refugee camps in Zaire.

Food deliveries were also relatively plentiful and regular.

As a result, few of those in Kibeho chose to return to their homes, fearing they would be killed by the Tutsi-led Rwandan Patriotic Army which had toppled

By
CAMERON
STEWART



the previous Hutu Government.

But by late last year, the new Tutsi Government was beginning to lose patience with those in the camps who refused to return home.

They claimed that many of those taking refuge in the camps were members of the Hutu Interhamwe who were the driving force behind the massacre last year of up to a million Rwandans.

The RPA feared that in Kibeho the Interhamwe were not only hiding from justice but were using the camp to regroup, rearm and plan future attacks on the RPA.

When the Rwandan Government late last year threatened to forcibly close the camp, the United Nations feared a major humanitarian disaster.

The UN managed to avert the forcible closure of Kibeho and other camps within Rwanda only by launching a massive operation in December to convince the refugees to return home.

Dubbed Operation Retour, it sought to return 2.4 million displaced Rwandans peacefully to their homes — the largest movement of people ever attempted by the UN.

It sought to do this by offering

free transport and food to those who chose to return. The UN also conducted a major propaganda campaign, using leaflets and loud-speakers, to convince sceptical camp members that it was safe to return home.

However, the Interhamwe effectively countered this by spreading rumours that those who returned would be killed.

They created such a climate of fear in Kibeho that the number of people in the camp swelled, rather than fell in recent months as refugees from other camps came to Kibeho.

When *The Australian* visited Kibeho in January, the 103 people who registered to leave the camp that day were women without baggage who chose to accept UN transport only as far as the nearby town of Butare to do their shopping.

By early this month the situation was becoming increasingly tense for the UN. It was being pressured by the RPA to close the camp but was unable to convince camp members to leave of their own free will.

It is against this background that the RPA last week lost patience with the UN and took matters into its own hands in order to close the camp.

The danger now is that, by forcing the refugees in Kibeho back home, the revenge killings which have long been feared in Rwanda will now occur, sparking a new cycle of murder.

SYDNEY MORN. HERALD
April 25, 1995
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Australian medics caught in Rwandan camp horror

By TONY WRIGHT
Political Correspondent

Almost 50 Australian doctors, nurses and soldiers were forced to take shelter in a hut in the middle of a stampeding crowd of tens of thousands of Rwandans as soldiers opened fire at the weekend, killing more than 4,000.

The shocked and weary Australians were returning yesterday from southern Rwanda to the capital, Kigali, battling through streams of refugees fleeing this latest horror and searching for new sanctuary.

They were being replaced at the scene of the killings by other members of the 301-strong Medical Support Force attached to the United Nations Assistance Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR).

A member of the Australian force in Rwanda, Major Peter Seaman, told yesterday how his colleagues found themselves in the centre of the worst massacre in the country since up to a million Rwandans died in mass killings a year ago.

None of the Australians had

been injured but shots had hit the hut in which they were sheltering as Rwandan Patriotic Army (RPA) soldiers fired indiscriminately into the massive crowd of refugees in Kibeho.

The Australians later spoke of hearing shooting continuing for hours as panicked refugees tried to escape machete-wielding hard-liners and gun-toting and grenade-throwing soldiers.

The Australian soldiers and a battalion of Zambian soldiers attached to UNAMIR at the camp were unable to intervene to try to protect the refugees — under UN rules, the 100 Australian riflemen are in Rwanda only to protect the Australian medical team.

An official UN statement yesterday claimed the death toll was about 2,000, but members of aid groups and others who had been in the camp dismissed the statement as a whitewash. Australian troops had stopped counting at 4,000 bodies, according to reports yesterday morning. By yesterday afternoon, the Australian military was quoting the UN report without comment.

A number of Australian aid

workers, including those CARE Australia and Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), were in the area last night. The president of MSF France, Mr Philippe Biberon, said from Paris that his field workers had reported that tens of thousands of displaced persons were wandering the roads without food and water. The situation was clearly desperate, he said.

Major Seaman said an Australian contingent of 48 had travelled to the refugee camp at Kibeho from Kigali last Thursday after reports that the RPA had surrounded the camp, forcing about 70,000 refugees onto a hillside.

The RPA's stated plan was to forcibly repatriate the refugees to their home communes around the country.

But the action caused intense anxiety among the refugees, most of whom are Hutus, who fear revenge from Tutsis for last year's genocide. The RPA soldiers are almost all Tutsis.

Major Seaman said the Australian force in the centre of the camp included 12 doctors and

nurses, a protective group of 30 infantrymen and six logistics and communications experts.

But on Saturday the situation suddenly burst out of control as hardcore members of the old Hutu militia began attacking refugees in the middle of the crowd with machetes.

Major Seaman said the Hutu militia members did not want to be repatriated and believed they would be arrested if they were forced to pass through the RPA checkpoints.

Their machete attacks caused panic to spread throughout the huge crowd, which stampeded.

The RPA soldiers reacted with semi-automatic rifle fire and by throwing grenades as the refugees burst through their cordon. Those who fell were trampled to death.

● It was announced yesterday that Australia's peacekeepers in Rwanda had been awarded the RSL's 1995 Anzac Peace Prize for their outstanding contribution to the restoration of peace in the strife-torn Central African nation.

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Keating pledges more help for Rwanda

NBERRA

Prime Minister Paul Keating committed more troops to Rwanda yesterday after meeting United Nations secretary-general Boutros Boutros-Ghali.

But Liberal Senator David Macdonald, who visited Rwanda in January, questioned the role of Australian forces there.

Mr Keating agreed to a stand-by agreement for Australia to list troops and resources which could be used in UN operation.

Australia would retain the right to

decide whether to send forces to an operation.

Australia is one of 42 countries, including the US, Britain and New Zealand, to agree to the arrangement.

Dr Boutros-Ghali told the National Press Club he had failed to convince UN members to let peacekeepers play a more forceful role in war-torn Rwanda and Bosnia.

Members were tired of endless peacekeeping operations so there was a shortage of money and troops.

He said this was frustrating because the UN could not intervene

to stop the massacres of thousands in Rwanda and Burundi.

While members had given the UN a mandate to intervene in the Gulf War, if member states did not give a mandate it could not act.

But Senator MacGibbon said he was concerned that peacekeepers — among them 50 Australians — stood by during last weekend's massacre of Hutu refugees by Tutsi soldiers.

He said there were at least 168 soldiers in the Kibeho refugee camp during the massacre.

While most Australians were medical personnel, all were armed and trained to use arms.

Witnesses said 8000 to 10,000 men, women and children died but the Rwandan Government said this was 2000 or fewer.

Senator MacGibbon's assertion that a UN force of 168 would match 2000 Tutsis is reasonable but UN forces are not allowed to shoot unless fired on or their lives are threatened.

At Kibeho, UN soldiers were not under threat.

Australia's main role is medical and has little combat capability.

A special UN convoy is expected in the capital Kigali today to reinforce international outrage over the incident, find out the truth and keep Rwanda's 10-month-old Government under the spotlight.

At Kibeho, Rwandan President Pasteur Bizimungu called for an international probe into the killings and supervised the exhumation of 338 bodies, an act diplomats said prejudiced any investigation.

Edited by P.T. Singam

THE WORLD

Kibeho Hutus defy food, water blockade

KIGALI

ABOUT 70 Hutu refugees abandoned the compound at Kibeho refugee camp, where Rwandan troops have blockaded about 1000 people in appalling conditions to force them to leave, aid workers said on Saturday.

The defiant Hutus still in the compound fear being killed if they surrender but government officials said they would be sent back to their home villages.

Thousands of Hutus were killed in the camp a week ago when troops opened fire on crowds and provoked a stampede.

The Hutus in the compound, which lacks food and water and reeks of excrement, want Rwanda to grant them safe passage to neighbouring Zaire, where hundreds of thousands of Hutus live after fleeing last year's ethnic conflict.

But on Friday, Zaire's Parliament called for the unconditional expulsion of Hutu refugees.

Aid workers said Zaire's announcement might weaken the Kibeho Hutus' resolve further. The United Nations and aid workers expressed concern at the possibility Zaire might expel the Hutu refugees.

"We continue to be believe that this is a humanitarian crisis and the principle of voluntary repatriation should be

respected," UN Assistance Mission in Rwanda spokesman Sammy Kum Buo said.

In southern Rwanda yesterday, a UN official said 14 Hutus were stoned to death on Thursday when they returned to their village, near Butare, from camps closed by government troops.

The official said about 100 others were forced to flee into the bush. The Government denied knowledge of any killings.

edited by P. T. Singam

THE WORLD

Transit to terror for Hutu massacre survivors

KIGALI

ERRIFIED Hutu survivors from southern Rwanda's camp massacre crowded in a sports stadium yesterday, waiting to be herded on to trucks by Tutsi soldiers and sent home to an uncertain future.

On Sunday, UN military and civilian spokesmen said between 5000 and 8000 Hutu refugees were killed at Kibeho on Saturday.

But an unsigned statement by the

UN Assistance Mission for Rwanda said another count showed only 2000 died.

This figure was not accepted by many aid workers in Rwanda nor apparently by senior figures in the UN operation.

Rwanda's Government, saying only 300 died, contended that Hutu militiamen in Kibeho camp fired on army forces and used civilians as human shields during an operation to close camps which held 250,000

people who had been displaced last year.

The Tutsi troops had responded by using mortars and machineguns, which mowed down crowds and forced stampedes.

About 5000 Hutus were in the sports stadium in Butare, 80km south of the capital, Kigali, early yesterday. Some had gunshot wounds apparently sustained in Saturday's massacre.

Hundreds of soldiers were on the streets of Butare and about 50 stood

guard over the Hutus at the stadium — the holding ground used for Tutsis during the massacres by Hutu hardliners a year ago.

One soldier invited journalists to ask the Hutus as many questions as they liked but the Hutus were too terrified to speak.

"It is evident that most of them are frightened and very uncertain about where they are going," said one aid worker, also too scared to give his name or organisation.

The army and officials of the Rehabilitation Ministry have separated about 5000 Hutus from the crowd in Butare stadium, packed them in trucks and sent them back to their home communes or districts.

What their reception will be in villages haunted by last year's massacres of up to a million Tutsis and moderate Hutus by hardliners of the ousted Hutu government is unclear.

Rwandan refugees face new despair

THE numbers are mindboggling. The scenes incomprehensible.

Perhaps as many as 8000 people — many of them women and children — massacred in a terrible bloodbath.

Tens of thousands more fleeing on their lives — some force-marched at gunpoint along a winding road where for kilometre after kilometre there is neither food nor water and little protection from the hot African sun.

The massacre at Kibeho has been the cards for months — in the day, last year, when forces of the minority Tutsi tribe tall, willowy, cattle-owners' won power from the majority Hutu squat, square-faced, cultivators of the land.

When I was in Kibeho, the signs of impending doom were there.

In the camp — one of the biggest set up after last year's tribal warfare in which upwards of a million people were slaughtered — were more than 100,000 people, all Hutu.

Many of the men were suspected of being members of the Interahamwe secret Hutu militia responsible for much of last year's slaughter.

The Tutsi-dominated Government was preoccupied by Kibeho and wanted the refugees to go home, saying they had nothing to fear.

To show that it meant business, the Government deployed its Tutsi soldiers on the perimeter of Kibeho camp.

But these soldiers are not the Rwanda Patriotic Front army. Trained, trigger-happy teenagers, whose only claim to authority is Russian-made Kalashnikov assault rifles and a loathing of all Hutus.

UN officials were deeply worried they tried to persuade the refugees to leave the camp, fearing that the army would move in and that a conflict of some sort would erupt that would result in bloodshed.

Controversially, UN commandos persuaded most of the big right-wing armies to stop supplying food to Kibeho. They argued that as long as the supplies continued, the Hutus

Thousands of people are dead after yet another horrifying massacre in the central African nation of Rwanda.

BRUCE LOUDON, who was in the Kibeho refugee camp just a few weeks ago, reports on the collapse of hopes for peace.

That, alas, is what has happened. The army's Tutsi thugs have finally given vent to their frustrations and racial malice.

A so-called breakout from Kibeho resulted in them using rocket-propelled grenades and automatic gunfire to cut down thousands of Hutu. Others died in the stampede that followed.

Now the Tutsi have got their way. Kibeho is largely deserted.

Many of the survivors are being force-marched to Butare, the provincial capital, though there is nothing for them there. Others have fled into the surrounding hills but there is nothing for them there either.

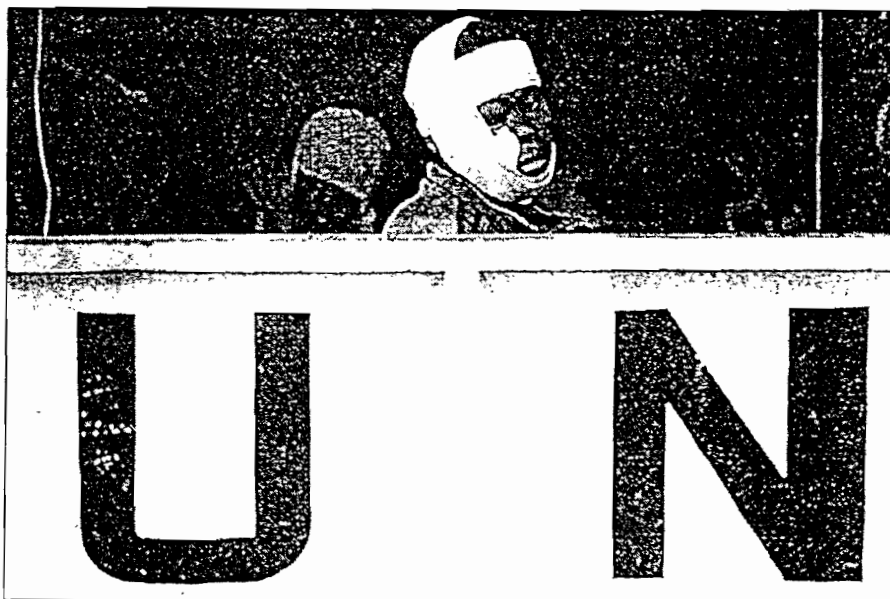
The massacre represents a chilling indictment of the Government in Kigali — a Government that Australia and others countries have done everything to sustain through the aid of taking over a country in the aftermath of genocide.

But the evil of what happened at the weekend is more widespread than that. Kibeho is only one of scores of refugee camps within the country and along its borders with Zaire and Tanzania.

Men, women and children in the camps fear that if they return to their homes they will be slaughtered. After Kibeho, who is to say they are wrong?

It will be a miracle if there are not more Kibehos as Tutsi soldiers set about closing down more camps.

Yet madamingly, in Rwanda you come a Tutsi, after Tutsi, with



Bloodied: A young Hutu woman who was shot, hacked and trampled is evacuated on a UN truck to Butare.



UN workers carry a refugee past the abandoned belongings of fleeing Hutus.

Ministers accused of camp attack plan

NAIROBI

RWANDAN Hutus in exile in Zaire accused Tutsi-led Kigali authorities of planning the Kibeho camp massacre.

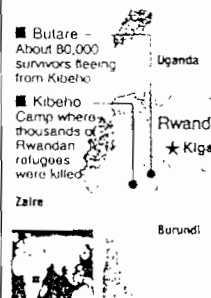
The Assembly for the Return of Democracy in Rwanda blamed Rwandan Defence Minister Paul Kagame and Jacques Nkuruziza, Minister of War

attack on the camp was a carefully planned act.

The two ministers are considered the strongmen of the Kigali Government, which is dominated by the Tutsi-led Rwandan Patriotic Front.

The exile party accused senior officials of the UN Mission in Rwanda and non-governmental organisations of trying to minimise the scale of the Kibeho tragedy.

Refugee terror



Peace prize for Diggers team

CANBERRA

AUSTRALIAN members of the Australian Peacekeeping Force in East Timor have been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for their role in the restoration of peace in the region.

The prize was awarded annually by the Norwegian Nobel Committee to the Australian peacekeepers, who made a significant contribution to international peace and stability.

Announcing the prize, the Nobel Committee said the Australian peacekeepers had shown "exceptional courage and determination" in their role in East Timor.

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THOUSANDS DIE IN NEW CAMP HORROR

WEST AUST P. 1 24 APR 95

KIGALI

MORE than 8000 people died when Rwandan troops opened fire in a crowded refugee camp at the weekend.

Twelve Australians were the only United Nations medical staff on hand to care for the survivors of the massacre at the sprawling Kibeho camp in the south west of the central African nation.

"The Australians are totally overwhelmed by the numbers of dead and seriously injured," Major Peter Seaman, a spokesman for the Australian medical team, said.

The camp had housed 80,000 mainly Hutu refugees but last night only the dead, 650 wounded and 250 children remained.

The killings started before dawn on Saturday when groups of Hutus in the squalid camp attacked each other with machetes over factional disputes.

The gunfire began at noon when rain fell and a mass of Hutus began to move.

Troops fired into the frightened crowd for an hour.

Others died as the crowd stampeded to escape the gunfire.

Major Mark MacKay of the Integrated Operations Centre, which coordinates UN relief operations in Rwanda, said last night: "The death toll is now about 8000, based on a search by the UN Zambian troops and the Australian medical team."

Bulldozers were sent in to dig mass graves.

Major Seaman said he believed grenades and mortar bombs were used in the slaughter.

Witnesses said most of the Hutu men, women and children were killed by the Tutsi-dominated Rwanda Patriotic Army. Bloody Hutu-Tutsi rivalry was behind the civil war that tore Rwanda apart.

Aid workers who fled Kibeho camp said it was uncertain if an exact toll would ever be known.

UN officials and journalists saw thousands of men, women and children break

through an army cordon and flee down hillsides pursued by troops firing indiscriminately.

The UN High Commissioner for Refugees said the tens of thousands of Hutus who fled the camp were streaming towards the southern town of Butare where 10,000 were already packed into a former school and 20,000 were crammed into a sports stadium.

The medical charity Medecins Sans Frontieres said Rwandan troops had sent tens of thousands of massacre survivors on a forced march.

Dozens of people had dropped from exhaustion on the 20km march to Butare. Most had been without food or water for five days.

"Our teams accompanying the displaced say many have been beaten by the local population," the group said.

The killing was the most savage since the RPA won power last year to end three months of civil war and genocide by Hutu troops and militiamen.

The government army moved in last Tuesday to close nine camps in the south-west of the country and force 250,000 Hutus back to their homes. The Government accused Hutu hardliners of using the camps as strongholds.

But many of the Hutus feared they would be killed in revenge for last year's genocide of up to one million Tutsis and Hutu moderates.

Major Seaman said no member of the Australian team had been hurt.

The team had been sent to Kibeho last week after clashes in which 11 people died.

Major Seaman said RPA troops surrounded Kibeho camp on Tuesday and herded the 80,000 residents into one central area.

"There were thousands and thousands of people, jam-packed into one area about 1.5km by 500m," he said.

Welfare agency CARE Australia said it would send medical staff to the massacre camp.

● Catastrophe fears,
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AUST.

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Patience with Rwanda slips away

KIGALI

THE European Union has threatened to suspend part of its aid to Rwanda because of the atrocity last weekend in which at least 2000 people were slain.

World outrage over the attack has endangered the flow of badly needed aid to Rwanda.

Belgium and the Netherlands have already suspended aid to the Rwandan Government.

Rwandan President Pasteur Bizimungu, Prime Minister Faustin Twagiramungu and UN special envoy Shaharwar Khan will go to the camp today to try to persuade the last 600 people there to go home.

Some holdouts in a school compound in Kibeho camp are said by UN officials to be armed Hutu extremists who are preventing others from leaving.

The refugees are Hutus, the ethnic majority blamed for last year's slaughter of 500,000 men, women and children. Most victims were Tutsis who were shot, hacked and clubbed to death by Hutu militias.

The new Tutsi-dominated government in Kigali has been trying for months to get the 200,000 displaced people within the country and the two million refugees outside it to return home. But many refugees fear reprisals.

Saturday's massacre came while the army was trying to close Kibeho, home to about 120,000 refugees. The Government considered the camp a hotbed of extremist Hutu militias.

The people were killed by army gunfire or trampled in a stampede to avoid the shooting. Another 20 refugees were found dead in a crowded jail cell yesterday just north of Butare where they were awaiting clearance from officials to return home.

A spokesman for the UN relief agency, the High Commissioner for Refugees, said most were believed to have died of suffocation but a field officer saw machete wounds on some.

"I know that some people over the



Fear: Hutu children in Rwanda who have been separated from their families line up for food at a makeshift camp.

last few days have been macheted inside that compound," said Lt. Kent Page, the UN military spokesman in Kigali.

Pope John Paul II, during his general audience at the Vatican yesterday, spoke of the "new, terrible massacre" and urged Rwanda's leaders to end the ethnic violence.

Aid workers and UN officials say most of the refugees who fled Kibeho after the shooting have reached their

villages, with a small number still trudging home. The officials said Saturday's attack was unprovoked, but the Government said its troops were attacked first by militias.

In Melbourne, foreign aid groups urged visiting UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali to promote a more active peacekeeping role for the UN in Rwanda and to forge closer links with non-government organisations.

Australian Council for Overseas Aid executive director Janet Hunt said aid agencies could provide early warnings of tensions around the world, potentially averting such tragedies as Rwanda.

"Dangerous and costly peace enforcement could be averted if the UN listened to the people on the ground in the world's troublespots and responded quickly," Ms Hunt said.

UN 'stood by' at Tutsi massacre

EVE-ANN PRENTICE and BUCHIZYA MSETEKA in Kibeho camp and agencies in Kigali

TERED and panicked survivors of the refugee are in Rwanda faced fresh cry at the hands of their foes yesterday, as United Nations peacekeepers were accused of doing almost nothing to protect the victims.

Y Hutu who survived the week-long slaughter at the Kibeho camp yesterday stoned or hacked with axes by civilians as Tutsi-led government troops warned of new attacks.

Y troops said they were ready to fight the last 1000 Hutus holed up in Rwanda's Kibeho camp, where they are getting impatient with the government's Tutsi-dominated Patriotic Army as hundreds of people massed at the camp.

Yer they surrender and we take them to jail, or we go in and take them out, are ready for them, but we are waiting for orders from Kigali," said a Rwandan Government spokesman.

Hutu gunmen provoked the government by firing on the RPA, said a spokesman in Kibeho, who added that the RPA were a "very criminal hardcore."

A UN peacekeeping officer said weapons were obvious among the Hutus in Kibeho, who included several wounded.

Refugees' ordeal continued as workers accused members of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Rwanda of standing by while the RPA shot down thousands of Hutus at the Kibeho camp on Saturday.

Mr-General Guy Tousignant, a Canadian UN force commander, said the mayhem a "regrettable situation" and praised his Zambian troops for not firing a shot.

Mr. the British charity, criticized the UN force in Rwanda consists of 5500 soldiers from Nigeria, Ghana,

cised the UN peacekeepers for not being present to protect the refugees from attacks by Tutsi civilians as they were marched from the camp on Sunday and Monday, as part of a Rwandan government campaign to clear 250,000 Hutus from a series of camps.

The UN was further criticised for causing confusion about the scale of the Kibeho camp massacre. UN officials said originally that up to 8000 men, women and children had perished, but yesterday reduced the estimate to about 2000.

Yet aid workers from Oxfam and Medecins Sans Frontieres said their workers had counted at least 4000 corpses on Sunday, and that was only in the parts of the camp to which they were allowed access.

The Rwandan Government claimed 300 people had died in the camp on Saturday, and some aid agencies said yesterday that the UN was wary of arguing with the Government since its mandate in Rwanda is due for renewal at the beginning of June.

"UNAMIR has screwed up — it can't blow its nose without asking the army first," said Mr John Macgrath, of Oxfam.

"UNAMIR do not appear to be doing their job," said Mr Guy Vassall-Adams, also of Oxfam.

"Our staff are very angry because the voluntary agencies have been doing what the UN should have been doing. The problem seems to be 90 per cent lack of resources and 10 per cent ineptitude."

RPA soldiers at roadblocks around the deserted camp blocked aid workers from going in yesterday, including the representative of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Mr Wenceslaus Urasa.

The UN force in Rwanda consists of 5500 soldiers from Nigeria, Ghana,

agencies in Kigali

Malawi, Tunisia and India, but its mandate dictates that it must work with the Government.

There are also supposed to be 147 UN human rights monitors in the country to help to prevent abuses against refugees returning after last year's genocidal war, but only about 80 of the observers have been deployed.

Yesterday the President of South Africa, Mr Mandela, said he wanted the 12-nation Southern African Development Community to look into the plight of the Rwandan refugees.

Mr Mandela's proposal came as the US Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, Mr George Moose, arrived in Kigali.

President Clinton instructed Mr Moose to go to Rwanda immediately upon hearing news of the massacre on Saturday. Mr Moose is expected to conduct a preliminary investigation.

The latest reports came as the UN Commissioner for Human Rights, Mr Jose Ayala-Lasso, warned in Sydney yesterday that Rwanda was in a precarious situation following the massacres of the last twelve months.

Mr Ayala-Lasso, scheduled to address a conference on global diversity on Friday as part of a one-week visit to Australia, called on the international community to help restore order in Rwanda.

"The country is in a precarious situation in the sense that to rebuild, reconstruct a State from scratch is difficult, especially when we take into account that this tremendous amount of genocide happened only one year ago," Mr Ayala-Lasso said. "All the trauma of this is still there."

The Times, Reuters, AFP

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UN troops retreat from Kibeho camp

KIGALI

AS PRESSURE mounted on the Rwandan army to explain the killing of thousands of refugees, UN troops abandoned a corpse-strewn compound housing survivors too fearful to leave.

Rwandan troops surrounded the squatted remnants of the Kibeho refugee camp shortly after the UN soldiers withdrew because the Rwandans' 4pm deadline expired.

Kibeho camp housed about 120,000 people a week ago but a shooting and

stampede that killed up to 8000 people sparked a mass exodus at the weekend. A few hundred people remain in a school and courtyard.

Aid workers said many wanted to leave but were being held back by Hutu militants who threatened to kill them if they obeyed the military.

Scores of people have died in night attacks inside the compound, allegedly perpetrated by militants.

A team from Doctors Without Borders arrived in Kibeho with medical supplies, but soldiers threatened to

bomb their field hospital if they went inside, said Joelle Tanguy, executive director of the group's US branch.

In London, Amnesty International demanded an independent inquiry into the camp killings to determine the Rwandan army's role.

Survivors of the massacre began arriving home to find no sign of the food that aid officials said would be there.

In Bujumbura, the capital of neighbouring Burundi, gunfire rang out across a Hutu stronghold after overnight

clashes in which army posts were attacked by gangs with automatic weapons and grenades.

Military authorities said Hutu extremists and members of the Tutsi-dominated armed forces had fought in the night, killing a policeman and one other person.

The clash was sparked when police trying to repossess a house were attacked and returned fire.

The Kamenge district, one of the few remaining Hutu areas in the Burundi capital, became a virtual no-go zone after the overnight clashes.

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THE ISSUES

UN helpless in Rwanda atrocity

ONCE again the world community has stood by helplessly as a nightmare of bloodlust has become an everyday reality in the shattered nation of Rwanda.

With a return to the savagery that has become a tragic mark of the divided country, thousands of people in the Kibeho refugee camp have been massacred by Rwandan soldiers in the latest eruption of tribal hostilities. A small contingent of United Nations troops could not stop the killings by about 2000 Rwandan soldiers using automatic gunfire and rocket-propelled grenades.

Estimates of the death toll range from 2000 to 8000. More than 100,000 refugees from the country's civil war have been driven from the camp by the soldiers into a countryside that offers them little food or protection from further attack.

The catastrophe has been expected for weeks.

The Tutsi-led government made no secret of wanting to send home the Hutu refugees in the camp. Tensions have been at explosion point between the groups since last year's civil war, in which the Hutus were blamed for

The West Australian

PERTH WEDNESDAY APRIL 26 1995

hundreds of thousands of deaths, mostly of Tutsis.

The government built up the pressure by deploying its troops on the perimeter of the camp.

UN officials feared a massacre but but were powerless to prevent it. They even resorted to discouraging the major relief agencies from sending food to Kibeho so that the Hutus would leave and a bloodbath would be avoided.

While humanitarian groups do what they can to relieve the appalling suffering and distress of survivors of the tribal terror campaigns, the UN has been again revealed to be impotent in the face of an impending atrocity that has added to the demand for international relief.

After its failures to prevent senseless bloodshed in Bosnia, Somalia and Rwanda — where it showed an apparent reluctance to act during the terrible months of genocide last year — the UN is increasingly under question as a supposed international peacekeeper.

Although no one would dispute the difficulty of trying to keep warring tribes with a history of mutual grievances from exacting bloody revenge, it has become clear that the UN's present peacekeeping strategies have had little effect in Rwanda.

The UN will become an effective instrument of peace only when member nations show the will and the resourcefulness to prevent bloodbaths wherever they are threatened.

Fifty years after the horrors of World War II the international community still has not devised ways in which to protect the innocent from ethnic massacres.

It is clear that the world community does not have sufficiently strong sanctions to hold over the heads of leaders who embark on lunatic campaigns of destruction. Members of the UN should consider ways in which such leaders can be held to be responsible for their actions and those of their followers, and are made to account for them.

And they should ensure that those who are responsible for perpetrating crimes against humanity are pursued relentlessly by the world community until they are brought to justice.





Outrage: Rwandans marching to protest against UN and aid agencies carry a blunt message.

Australians caught in aid backlash

AUSTRALIAN troops and aid workers were under threat yesterday as hundreds of Rwandans marched in angry protest against UN and aid agencies.

The anti-foreigner tirade reached its height when several hundred Kigali residents, including the interior minister, took to the streets and marched to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees

By BUCHIZYA MSETIKA
in Kigali

offices, the Belgian and French embassies, and a residence for Australian UN medical staff and denounced them all.

Some protesters tried to scale the UNHCR compound fence but government troops stopped them. Australian troops took up posi-

tions at their residence but the crowd left peacefully. The organisations attacked were accused of lying about last week's tragic events at Kibeho camp, where thousands of Hutus were killed by government gunfire and stampedes in an operation to close the camp.

Nearly 1000 Hutus remain there without food or water. — REUTER

216 WEST AUST 27/4/95

id by P T Singam



ibeho camp Hutus use children as shields, says UN

ALI

US isolated in Rwanda's Kibeho
gee camp are using hundreds of
dren as human shields against
ck by the Tutsi-dominated army,
nited Nations official said.

nicief condemned the practice and
ed for the immediate release of
captives.

the Rwandan army denied access
the central part of the camp to all
UN and Red Cross personnel.
any army troops patrolled the
ounds of the camp which housed

130,000 people before the massacre
on Saturday.

Only 2000 people, including 500
children, remained in the camp. The
UN mission and the Rwandan army
said these included armed Hutu
militiamen and other refugees taking
shelter in buildings that served as a
hospital and a school.

Hutus in the camp pressed their
demand for free passage into
neighbouring Zaire.

Aid workers and UN officials
warned of a prolonged standoff
between the Hutus, described by the
Government as hard-core criminals,

and a Tutsi army the Hutus perceive
as determined to kill them.

The Red Cross was mediating
between the army surrounding
Kibeho and the Hutus, who are ailing
from lack of water and food, plus
disease and overcrowding.

Australian and Zambian
peacekeepers who witnessed the
slaughter said they felt frustrated at
their failure to step in and stop the
carnage.

They said lack of firepower,
manpower and most importantly
orders from the UN high command in
Kigali reduced them to lame ducks

while Rwanda's army combed the
camp, shooting and bayoneting men,
women and children.

"I feel ashamed, ashamed that we
stood by while government troops
hunted down Hutus in the valleys,"
an Australian officer said.

The Australians and Zambia's
168-man contingent said they had
been overwhelmed and outgunned by
the army's presence of more than
2000 heavily armed men.

"The only solution we had was to
come in between the army and the
Hutu civilians but strict orders from

Kigali confined us to our base," a
Zambian officer said.

The UN special envoy to Rwanda,
Shaharyar Khan, has defended the
action, saying his troops did their
best under the circumstances.

Mr Khan has been accused of
trying to whitewash the incident by
revising numbers of those killed to
2000 from an earlier UN tally of
5000.

The Rwandan Government,
increasingly concerned about bad
publicity abroad, has barred
television news crews from sending
images home by satellite dishes.

DAILY TELEGRAPH-MIRROR

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Hillsides 'strewn with corpses'
after army opens fire

Rwandans flee camp massacre

KIGALI: Panicked Rwandans fled a refugee camp in droves and soldiers buried bodies in shallow graves and latrine pits after thousands died in a massacre by government troops.

A 15km line of refugees streamed out of Kibeho yesterday toward the provincial capital of Butare, 32km east, or the Burundi border, which lies beyond.

Most were sick or wounded, said a UN High Commission for Refugees team that visited the camp. A UN relief agency set up medical centres along the way.

"They have thrown away all of their belongings, sacks of maize, plastic sheeting, personal effects," the team reported. "The road was piled high with abandoned goods."

Tutsi-led government forces opened fire on Sunday on refugees, predominantly Hutus. An estimated 2000 people died in the shooting and subsequent stampede.

Yesterday soldiers buried victims at the Kibeho camp, 95km south-west of the capital, Kigali.

Hillsides that had been strewn with corpses were cleared by the end of the day, aid workers said.

Rain turned the road out of the camp into a quagmire. Trucks and buses sent to help evacuate the refugees were stuck 15km away.

Rain also apparently touched off Sunday's massacre.

The Hutus fear Tutsi reprisals for last year's slayings of about 500,000 Tutsis. The refugees fled last July

when Tutsi-led rebels overthrew the Hutu-dominated government.

Kibeho, with about 120,000 refugees, was initially set up by the French for some 250,000 displaced people.

The French withdrew last year and the new government sent soldiers to close the camps, claiming they sheltered militias loyal to the former government.

On Sunday camp residents apparently seeking cover from the rain, tried to run through a cordon of soldiers surrounding it.

"This spooked the soldiers, and they started firing into the crowd," said Itay Wilkinson, UNHCR spokesman in Kenya.

When Hutu militiamen in the camp apparently returned fire, the soldiers responded with heavy mortars, the UN said. Other UN reports said people were killed by machetes bayonets and grenades.

"As confusion then became total chaos and panic, a large number of people, mostly women and children were trampled to death," Mr. Wilkinson said.

A Doctors Without Borders worker who was in the camp on Sunday, Etienne Quetm, said refugees may have attacked each other with machetes, but much of the killing was done by the Rwandan army.

"The army was shooting into the backs of people who were fleeing," he said yesterday. "That was old people, women. Many fled into the crowd."

HERALD SUN (VIC)

April 25, 1995

Page 2

Thousands on long march of despair

By JULIAN BEDFORD
in Kigali
and PAULINE JELINEK
in Gikongoro

A 15-km line of exhausted and wounded refugees from the massacre at Kibeho were force-marched by the army to Butare, 32km away, yesterday.

Tens of thousands of refugees fled the camp, about 85km south-west of the capital Kigali, in droves as soldiers buried bodies in shallow graves and latrine pits after the killings by government troops.

Most of the refugees were too exhausted even to carry the few possessions they had closely guarded since they left their villages months ago.

"They have thrown away all of their belongings, sacks of maize, plastic sheeting, personal effects," a team from the UN High Commissioner for Refugees that visited the camp said.

"The road was piled high with these abandoned goods."

Official estimates of the death toll range as high as 8000, but Rwanda's President said only 30 had died.

Mr Pasteur Bizimungu, visiting the corpse-strewn camp yesterday, said: "The figure that has been given has been exaggerated. There were 300 dead."

"It is a pity that people have died but the people inside the camp had arms and were violent people."

UN special envoy Shaharyar Khan said the official death toll was 5000 but counting was continuing.

But late yesterday, the UN Assistance Mission in Rwanda disavowed all UN estimates, saying: "After taking a more scientific count of the number of deaths, the figure has been revised to approximately 2000."

Most people bound for Butare were sick or wounded, according to UNHCR.

Soldiers of the Tutsi-led government forces opened fire at the weekend on refugees, who are predominantly from the Hutu ethnic group.

By last yesterday, most of the corpses at the camp had been cleared, aid workers said.

Rain turned the road from the camp into a quagmire. Trucks sent to help evacuate the refugees were stuck 15km away.

Most of the refugees are Hutus who fear Tutsi reprisals for last year's slayings of about 500,000 people — mostly Tutsis.

The refugees fled last July when Tutsi-led rebels overthrew the Hutu-dominated government.

Kibeho, with about 100,000 refugees, was the largest of the camps set up for 250,000 displaced people.

The new Government sent soldiers to begin closing camps on Tuesday, saying they sheltered militias loyal to the former government.

At the weekend, camp residents, apparently seeking cover from the rain, tried to run through a cordon of soldiers surrounding it.

"This spooked the soldiers, and they started firing into the crowd," Mr Ray Wilkinson, UNHCR spokesman in Kenya said.

When Hutu militiamen in the camp returned fire, the soldiers responded with heavy mortars, the UN said.

Other UN reports said people were killed by machetes, bayonets and rocket-propelled grenades.

"As confusion then became total chaos and panic, a large number of people, mostly women and children, were trampled to death," Mr Wilkinson said.

A Doctors without Borders worker who saw the massacre, Mr Etienne Quetin, said refugees may have attacked each other with machetes, but much of the killing was done by soldiers from the Rwandan Patriotic Army.

"The RPA was shooting into the backs of people who were fleeing," he said yesterday in Gikongoro, 20km north of the camp.

Yesterday, Belgium condemned the brutality of Rwandan troops and France called for those responsible to be punished.

The US said it was saddened and concerned.

According to the Rwandan Government, Hutu gunmen started the shooting.

The Hutus had refused the mainly-Tutsi army's orders to leave the camp and return to their villages.

What followed Prime Minister Mr Faustin Taremba said in Paris was a legitimate response by troops.

They fired directly into the crowd for an hour and hundreds were killed as the Hutus stampeded.

UN aid officials said the RPA firing intensified and mortar bombs were

lobbed into the crowd when troops came under fire from several armed Hutus.

Meanwhile, Rwandan Hutus in exile in Zaire yesterday accused Tutsi-led Kigali authorities of planning the massacre.

The Assembly for the Return of Democracy in Rwanda blamed the bloodletting on Rwandan Defence Minister Mr Paul Kagame and Minister of War Reconstruction, Refugees and Displaced Persons Mr Jacques Biziozagara.

The Hutu exile organisation said the mortar attack had been "a deliberate and carefully planned act".

The two ministers are considered the strongmen of the Kigali Government.

The Assembly for the Return of Democracy, formed last week in Zaire's Hutu refugee camps, also condemned "the attitude of certain senior officials of the UN Mission in Rwanda and non-governmental organisations trying to minimise the scale of the tragedy and play down the responsibilities of the Kigali Government".

— REUTER, AP

AGE

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Page 6

Death and desolation in Rwanda

By DONATELLA LORCH,
Kibeho, Rwanda, Monday

Kibeho was a scene of carnage and desolation yesterday, a place where death had swept through with the intensity well known to Rwanda.

Panicked Hutus fled the refugee camp and soldiers buried bodies in shallow graves and latrine pits.

A 15-kilometre line of refugees streamed out of Kibeho towards the provincial capital of Butare or the Burundi border. Most were sick or wounded, and a UN relief team, which set up medical centres along the way, described the panic.

"They have thrown away all of their belongings, sacks of maize, plastic sheeting, personal effects," the team said in a report. "The road was piled high with these abandoned goods."

Bitter arguments have broken out between the Rwandan Government, UN officials and aid workers about just how many people were slaughtered.

UN officials initially estimated that up to 8000 people died, shot by Government troops or

trampled in the ensuing panic. They later revised the official death toll down to about 2000.

Aid workers dispute that figure, saying it was far higher.

Rwanda's Rehabilitation Minister, Mr Jacques Bihozagara, said: "Hundreds have been killed, and a lot of people have disappeared" from the refugee camps.

The Government, which had launched the operation to close the camp, put the number of dead at 300.

The killings happened in two separate incidents. Each time, the Hutus tried to run through the lines of Rwandan soldiers who opened fire. The second time was just before sunset, when soldiers opened fire with assault weapons, machineguns and grenades, UN officials said.

Last week, as part of the final stage of a year-long effort to get the Hutus to return to their homes, the Rwandan military forcibly closed several camps, herding about 50,000 Hutus on to a hillside in Kibeho and guarding them with about 3000 soldiers. With little food or water available, tensions grew.

Armed Hutu militias inside the camps coerced and incited people to try to run through the troops' lines. Scores of Hutus were attacked by others with machetes, UN officials said.

Yesterday, several hundred bodies lay scattered near a brick building, but most of the dead were already buried. In a nearby cluster of brick buildings, 1000 Hutus had taken refuge and now refused to leave.

French troops established the camps during the Rwandan civil

war last year between the Hutu and Tutsi ethnic groups. Roughly 300,000 Hutus who fled the victorious rebel Tutsi army took refuge in the area. Human rights and UN officials say many of these Hutus had been involved in the massacres of an estimated 500,000 Rwandans, most of them Tutsis.

By yesterday, Rwandan soldiers had buried almost all of those killed, UN peacekeepers said.

The soldiers did not allow access to certain areas to any UN or relief workers until after the cleanup. The delay prevented UN forces from realising the full extent of the carnage until yesterday.

President Ruzumungu, during a visit to Kibeho yesterday, said that the troops had killed no more than 300 people. "The international community has been shocked because they have been told lies."

Yet to the relief workers, UN medical staff and visitors who saw the shootings, it was obvious that the figures were much higher.

— New York Times, AP

SYDNEY MORN. HERALD
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Page 1

Australian medics caught in Rwandan camp horror

By TONY WRIGHT
Political Correspondent

Almost 50 Australian doctors, nurses and soldiers were forced to take shelter in a hut in the middle of a stampeding crowd of tens of thousands of Rwandans as soldiers opened fire at the weekend, killing more than 4,000.

The shocked and weary Australians were returning yesterday from southern Rwanda to the capital, Kigali, battling through streams of refugees fleeing this latest horror and searching for new sanctuary.

They were being replaced at the scene of the killings by other members of the 301-strong Medical Support Force attached to the United Nations Assistance Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR).

A member of the Australian force in Rwanda, Major Peter Seaman, told yesterday how his colleagues found themselves in the centre of the worst massacre in the country since up to a million Rwandans died in mass killings a year ago.

None of the Australians had

been injured but shots had hit the hut in which they were sheltering as Rwandan Patriotic Army (RPA) soldiers fired indiscriminately into the massive crowd of refugees in Kibeho.

The Australians later spoke of hearing shooting continuing for hours as panicked refugees tried to escape machete-wielding hard-liners and gun-toting and grenade-throwing soldiers.

The Australian soldiers and a battalion of Zambian soldiers attached to UNAMIR at the camp were unable to intervene to try to protect the refugees - under UN rules, the 100 Australian riflemen are in Rwanda only to protect the Australian medical team.

An official UN statement yesterday claimed the death toll was about 2,000, but members of aid groups and others who had been in the camp dismissed the statement as a whitewash. Australian troops had stopped counting at 4,000 bodies, according to reports yesterday morning. By yesterday afternoon, the Australian military was quoting the UN report without comment.

A number of Australian aid

workers, including those CARE Australia and Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), were in the area last night. The president of MSF France, Mr Philippe Biherson, said from Paris that his field workers had reported that tens of thousands of displaced persons were wandering the roads without food and water. The situation was clearly desperate, he said.

Major Seaman said an Australian contingent of 48 had travelled to the refugee camp at Kibeho from Kigali last Thursday after reports that the RPA had surrounded the camp, forcing about 70,000 refugees onto a hillside.

The RPA's stated plan was to forcibly repatriate the refugees to their home communes around the country.

But the action caused intense anxiety among the refugees, most of whom are Hutus, who fear revenge from Tutsis for last year's genocide. The RPA soldiers are almost all Tutsis.

Major Seaman said the Australian force in the centre of the camp included 12 doctors and

nurses, a protective group of 30 infantrymen and six logistics and communications experts.

But on Saturday the situation suddenly hurtled out of control as hardcore members of the old Hutu militia began attacking refugees in the middle of the crowd with machetes.

Major Seaman said the Hutu militia members did not want to be repatriated and believed they would be arrested if they were forced to pass through the RPA checkpoints.

Their machete attacks caused panic to spread throughout the huge crowd, which stampeded.

The RPA soldiers reacted with semi-automatic rifle fire and by throwing grenades as the refugees burst through their cordon. Those who fell were trampled to death.

It was announced yesterday that Australia's peacekeepers in Rwanda had been awarded the RSL's 1995 Anzac Peace Prize for their outstanding contribution to the restoration of peace in the strife-torn Central African nation.

SUNDAYWORLD

30 Apr 95

Find the killers, UN tells Rwanda

KIGALI. A United Nations special envoy yesterday put pressure on Rwanda's government to find the truth about last weekend's slaughter of thousands of Hutus in Kibeho camp, near the Zairean border.

About 500 Hutus remain under siege in the camp, surrounded by Tutsi soldiers of the Rwandan army. UN officials said the special envoy, Mr Aldo Ajello,

had told President Pasteur Bizimungu of the UN's concern over the killings, and was urgently seeking an international inquiry promoted by the president.

Mr Ajello is also trying to end the impasse between the Hutus in Kibeho and their besiegers.

The troops have cut off supplies of food and water to the camp, but aid workers say this has failed to persuade the Hutus to leave.

President Bizimungu,

members of his government and diplomats visited Kibeho on Friday but the Hutus, who want to go to Zaire, turned down the appeals to leave the camp.

"They would rather die of starvation, dehydration or disease rather than surrender to government troops," an aid worker said.

The Hutus, who the government claims include those guilty of the genocide of Tutsis last year, are becoming a symbol of resistance against the Tutsi

minority whose members dominate the army.

At this time last year, Tutsis were the victims as Hutu forces butchered between 500,000 and a million of the smaller clan before the army drove them into exile.

Officials of the UN Assistance Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR) said Mr Ajello was also carrying a message from UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, expressing displeasure at last week's carnage in Kibeho.



Defiant amid suffering: Wounded Hutu refugees refuse to leave Kibeho camp.

UN envoy to Rwanda Shaharyar Khan says 2000 were killed but Australian and Zambian peacekeepers at Kibeho say the bodies of 4050 were counted, along with 600 wounded.

Witnesses said many Hutus, including children, were killed when RPA troops opened fire first into crowds. Many more were killed in stampedes or hacked to death by fellow inmates.

— REUTER