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NEWSLETTER

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Nº1.

This is our GLOBAL. newsletter. Our mission has always been to provide high quality articles on topic from around the world. This magazine is a vessel to do just that. So from now on a new way to view our content will be through this GLOBAL. magazine.



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GLOBAL. IS
CHANGING

HAITI'S FUTURE

HOW HAITI'S FUTURE LOOKS



In the past four months, the situation in Haiti has escalated from minor gang-related skirmishes to all-out civil conflict on the small island nation. With former Prime Minister Ariel Henry out of power, the Caribbean nation is effectively leaderless. Many have moved towards the Dominican Republic with few options for fleeing the conflict. However, the Dominican Republic has made it clear that no Haitians will be allowed inside its walls and has even employed guards with tasers to resist any attempters (BBC, 2024). The situation is dire. With over 15,000 people immediately displaced, Port au Prince under 80% occupation by gang control, the UN and ICRC fleeing the country, and minimal international attention, the country appeared to be heading toward a total collapse (BBC, 2024).

In a turn of events that many in Haiti see as their hopeful future, CARICOM (Caribbean Community) and the USA have teamed up to try and find a solution to this devastating problem. Currently, the UN, CARICOM, the USA, and Kenya are discussing the implementation of Kenyan peacekeepers to the nation as soon as possible, with even the USA supplying 100 million USD to try and support the quick turnover time. Discussions are also being held regarding elections taking place as soon as possible to defy "Barbecue," the leader of G9 (the largest gang on the island). However, G9 and its leader are staunchly resisting any setups of traditional, transitional councils being placed to foster a new elected leader into power.

Unfortunately, this is not the only future issue for Haiti. The WFP states that around 1.4 million people live in famine-level hunger situations, and around 4.35 million are in potential danger (WFP, 2024). This, coupled with "Long-stalled, half-hearted attempts to rally a new multinational security force and shore up Haiti's failed state have received inadequate international support." (ChathamHouse, 2024), has caused destabilization to go unchecked.



Of course, it is essential to note that these issues did not spring up out of the blue. Since the UN peacekeeping force left in 2019, issues have been boiling. Residual damages from the Haitian Earthquakes in 2010, the assassination of President Jovenel Moïse in 2021, and prison breaks since 2023 perpetrated by G9 have caused a general destabilization of Haiti. Neither the UN nor the ICRC have been able to slow the spread of violence, and now, the Dominican decision to block off the border has created a potential situation for disaster. With threats from G9, including genocide, Haiti has begun to prepare for the worst (CBS, 2024).

WFP, the UN, the USA, and other CARICOM nations are attempting to create "air bridges " to deliver food and resources to civilians (CNN, 2024). However, all processes have slowed as the true nature of the situation on the ground is not entirely clear. All of this, coupled with a complete misunderstanding of the scale and size of the conflict on the ground, has meant any forces prepared currently may be going in blind or without proper information to handle the situation. "As the core—and only deployment-ready—force, the Kenyan contingent is wholly insufficient to provide meaningful reinforcement to the Haitian National Police. It is also inappropriate to center the UN mission on policing when Haiti's situation requires a military response." (FP, 2024). This misunderstanding could result in a massive civil war in the coming weeks. The UN and other groups are now looking for a restructuring solution with regional organizations. However, all attempts appear to move much slower than G9 and its control of the country.

Haiti has an uncertain future in the Caribbean. No leader or transitional government in power, a gang group controlling almost the whole nation, no true resistant force prepared, fleeing UN and ICRC help, and slow responses from international attention has meant that Haitians are turning to their neighbor for help, and the Dominican Republic is unlikely to provide it without UN/USA/CARICOM support. If international aid and forces do not arrive soon, it is unclear what form of government, if any, will take shape in the near future.



UN AND AI

THE AI REVOLUTION NOW HAS A UN COMPANION

AI has taken the world by storm these past few years. Chat GPT, Open AI, and many more have become the topic of international conversation on the future of technology and the ethics of its implementation and usage. While many in the tech industry see its benefits outweighing the negatives, many in the services world see it as a threat to their employment. Governments have also shown interest in its military and civilian application and have grown concerned over its intelligence and authority. This fine line is where the UN and its Tech Envoy, Mr. Amandeep Singh Gill, come in. In the UN report that started the intergovernmental conversation on AI, the UN states that "...such an envoy" could identify over-the-horizon concerns that need improved cooperation or governance; provide light-touch coordination of multi-stakeholder actors to address shared concerns; reinforce principles and norms developed in forums with relevant mandates; and work with UN member states, civil society and businesses to support compliance with agreed norms." (UN, 2024). This diplomatic language is masking the UN's genuine concern for the future of AI globally.

In order to slow down the progress and start a conversation, the UN has created the Global AI Operative, a new interdisciplinary framework, a multi-stakeholder approach, and the OSET office of the UN to handle the AI revolution (UN, 2024). Despite these many international attempts to administrate legal systems on AI, very little has worked. Even legislative and judicial bodies in the USA, Canada, and the EU struggle to keep up. Authoritarian states like China have done better at administrating it, likely due to a lack of legislative and democratic oversight required.

A Battle of Confronting Systems.

However, in a turn of events, the USA and numerous allies are attempting to take on AI advancement. "The United States is spearheading the first United Nations resolution on artificial intelligence, aimed at ensuring the new technology is "safe, secure and trustworthy" and that all countries, especially those in the developing world, have equal access. The draft General Assembly resolution aims to close the digital divide between countries and make sure they are all at the table in discussions on AI – and that they have the technology and capabilities to take advantage of its benefits, including detecting diseases, predicting floods and training the next generation of workers." (AP, 2024). This resolution also discusses the importance of creating a safe, secure, and trustworthy processes to condemn tech company practices that could violate humanity's future and ensure that AI does not progress to destroy or harm others. This radical move could help draw more governmental attention to the rapidly expanding AI world. Despite this, it would appear that the world is not all on the same page.



With "Governing AI for Humanity" and "Towards an Ethics of Artificial Intelligence" reports stating UN solutions to AI issues, an essential new issue has been brought up. The digital divide between the developed and developing states of the world. "By focusing on these big incumbents rather than smaller, more community-focused ISPs, government strategies for expanding internet access have likewise fallen short. 2.7 billion people without internet access cannot wait any longer." (CFR, 2024). As billions live without access to basic internet systems, much of the world will be in AI darkness. As minds like Bill Gates and others have attempted to change this issue, the world believes it has done a lot to fix this problem, but in reality, almost all attempts have failed (CFR, 2024). "...deplored that the digital gap between developed and developing countries is widening rather than closing as new technologies emerge and advance – threatening to leave the world's poorest permanently excluded from the fourth industrial revolution." (UN, 2024). This gap only further shows the problems of inequity between the developed and developing worlds. As Western nations advance rapidly with little oversight, others fall further behind, fueling outrage in parts of Africa, Asia, and the Americas.

AI is a valuable but potentially dangerous tool for our world. Whether it is Google or the UN, everyone can agree that the situation is rapidly changing, and there are almost no legal limitations to what this technology can achieve. As many at the UN have stated, if we catch it early and push its use for suitable and humanitarian needs globally, it could be the tool we always needed to end issues like global hunger and war, but if wielded incorrectly, it could be the tool that destroys us (UN, 2024). The future of tech and humanity is always uncertain, but now, with the rapid acceleration of technology, it appears ever more ominous and unclear to the billions of people with and without access to this future.

FAMINE IN SUDAN

*THE WORLDS LARGEST
CURRENT HUMANITARIAN
CRISIS*



Sudan currently has one of the world's most significant humanitarian crises within its borders. 18 million people are living in food insecurity, 7.7 million are displaced, and around 5 million are facing famine soon (WFP, 2024). This is a nightmare that has only grown in the past few years. A deepening military conflict between the government and various insurgency groups has meant that Sudan has officially become the world's largest displacement crisis (WFP, 2024). With thousands dying in battle, millions fleeing, and many more starving, the situation in Sudan paints an unsettling look for other nations facing growing humanitarian disasters, such as Yemen, Somalia, South Sudan, and Chad.

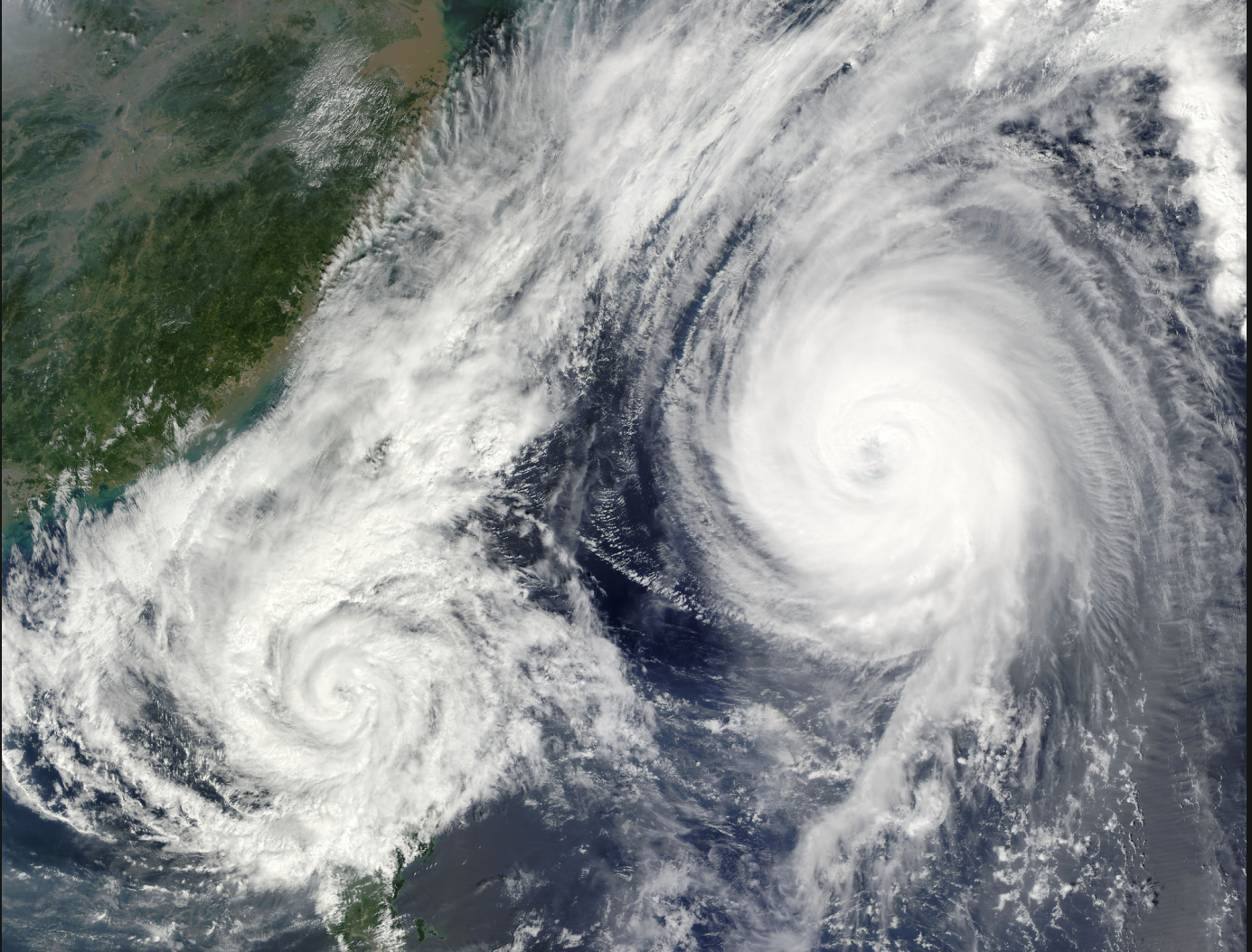
Sudan has been a nation broken and distraught from its artificial creation by the British in the late 19th century. During British rule, the region's people faced some of the worst humanitarian conditions in any African colony. With an environment that outside of the Nile is relatively inhospitable during part of the year, a mass colonial oppression that divided ethnic groups, and a complex network of rivaling tribal kingdoms, the region was plagued by famines, conflicts, and humanitarian fallouts (Searcy, 2019). This would continue until independence in 1956, when the British fled the region due to their collapsing international empire. However, the effects would never be lost.



After independence, Sudan was plagued by war and instability. "Post-independence conflicts in Sudan were largely caused by ethnic divisions created by the British colonial administration between 1899 and 1956. "Divide and rule" policies pursued by the British continue to haunt contemporary Sudan, both north and south." (Searcy, 2019). These ethnic conflicts led to horrific results and would carry the colonial trauma far and beyond British rule. In 2003, the Darfur genocide had begun when rebellion broke out across the Darfur region of Sudan. "The government of Sudan responded by mobilizing so-called janjaweed militias, which waged a scorched earth campaign against civilians in the region." (Yale, 2024). The ensuing conflict would target civilians of specific ethnic backgrounds, resulting in the deaths of around 400,000 people from 2003 till today (USHMM, 2024). This conflict and genocide has never ended despite the UN peacekeeping mission in Sudan and the UK fighting against these groups constantly. Instead, this conflict has spread out and caused numerous other issues, including the ongoing Sudan War and now near-extreme-level famine (WFP, HRW, 2024)

Since November of 2023, the War in Sudan has escalated immensely alongside the rapidly growing humanitarian crisis. To go along with these dangers has been a lack of grain and other food products due to global shortages related to the War in Ukraine and the Conflict in Gaza. The pandemic still has its effects on Sudan as well, and as Sudan's economy has never been able to withstand the growing catastrophe, little confidence exists in the government's future. These factors combine to paint an ominous picture for the region and nations like Yemen, which are facing similar problems. As Yemen's growing food crisis hits critical levels and as conflict rages on across the nation, the UN and ICRC struggle to slow the spread of violence. However, an Arab and international grouping of nations has come to support Yemen in its plight in recent weeks, showing that there is potential for its Red Sea neighbor Sudan. "So far, around 1,800 people have died in the fighting in Sudan. It can only envy its neighbor across the Red Sea, where an Arab and international coalition seeks to end the conflict." (Haaretz, 2023).

Sudan and Yemen are two nations that show how quickly conflict can turn into international migration/humanitarian challenges that affect nations in the region and the globe. They also show how international geopolitical issues can quickly affect other nations globally. Both countries require international aid and attention, but as Yemen has begun to receive some, many wonder if neighboring Sudan will also be looked at. Only time will tell if either of these countries can pull out of their current disasters. However, with careful attention and proactive humanitarian focus, it appears that there is hope in some of the world's most violent and hungry nations.



STORMS AND SEASONS

HOW STORMS ARE CHANGING THE WORLD OVER

Through the millennium, the planet has gone through heating and cooling cycles. Weather, with its consistently fluctuating patterns, tells a story that meteorologists and climate scientists have become proficient in reading. The spontaneous nature in which Earth resides leaves predictive modeling systems susceptible to ever-increasing storm intensity. Such models include “energy balance, intermediate complexity, and general circulation models.” (Columbia Climate School, 2018)

Global systems are retaining higher energy levels, leaving behind a footprint noticeable to many. However, climate scientists are experiencing latency. “Factors such as cloud cover, wind field, and precipitation are subject to natural fluctuations and long-term change are generally considered part of the climate” (Oxford, 2005). However, it is essential to note that the weather affects us all. California, for instance, had a historic bomb cyclone, Hillary, that occurred in March 2023 and dispersed mass amounts of energy felt by many.

Storm occurrences continually shatter records with global weather, causing significant damage to mass infrastructure. We can try and control the land through stewardship ideology; however, other factors at play cause positive feedback that can potentially create mass change. Globally, the planet consistently experiences stormy weather events in remote, rural, or urban locations. One event happened in Australia in February 2024, when a tropical cyclone named Lincoln swept through the Gulf of Carpentaria then made landfall between the Northern Territory and Queensland. Some oceanic currents surrounding Australia include Leeuwin, Antarctica, and the East Australian flows, which connect to the greater oscillation cycle.

Russia is a large country situated on a primarily continental landmass. Yet seasonal warming is influencing its climate and will soon be at the forefront of climate change globally. In March, Australia experiences autumn weather, and the United States of America experiences spring weather. It is crucial to understand Oceanic Oscillation systems as they passively connect with inland continental structures that affect climate patterns. Both planetary systems act as drivers of storm occurrences.

When it comes to ocean current circulations the first thing to come to mind will be the oceanic gyres that circulate mass amounts of water. Considering global gyre locations there are tropical, subtropical, and subpolar with five major gyres circulating in part to warm and cold currents. "Wind, tides, and differences in temperature drive ocean currents" with salinity further acting as a main factor in marine dynamics. (NOAA, 2023)

Upwelling is a process in the ocean that sees warm water displaced by deep, cold water that rises near the surface. Precipitation and storm severity coincide with warming and cooling planetary oscillation cycles. These cycles occur every two to seven years, El Nino Southern Oscillation or ENSO and La Nina, which may indicate future weather occurrences inferred from the globe's climatic history. "El Nino and La Nina have their strongest influence on U.S seasonal climate in winter." (NOAA, 2023) With oceanic movement, warm bodies of water are present during an ENSO.

Furthermore, the ENSO affects Australia, causing local weather to experience dryer conditions and a hotter environment. With the possible occurrence of a La Nina, Australia may experience greater amount of rain and colder temperatures. Currently, El Nino dynamics continue, however, climate scientist suspect a neutral climatic shift to occur between the months of April - June 2024, with there being greater odds of a developing La Nina in the months of June - August 2024.

Oceania defines a section of the Pacific where island countries were established, including Australia, a nation and a major continent, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, and Hawaii. Many of the region's inhabitants embraced the sea with a rich history in ocean exploration. "Oceania's physical geography, environment, and resources and human geography can be considered separately" though all are impacted by connective oceanic patterning (National Geographic).





Tropical Cyclone Lincoln brought massive amounts of rain-inducing flooding coupled with thunderstorm activity, even causing lives to be lost. "TC Lincoln was the first cyclone in the Northern Territory in the 2023-24 season" (Storm Science Australia, 2024). When the storm occurred, a low-pressure system was indeed present, with gale-force winds influencing atmospheric rivers and water dynamics over the eastern Indian Ocean and neighboring regions.

Some aspects of the storm include 40 mph winds, with the event being categorized as Category 1 Tropical Cyclone noted by NASA, which states the ranking is in reference to the Australian scale. The storm lost its oceanic, atmospheric power once it started to move west, situating over land. The Global Disaster Alert and Coordination System indicated the storm dissipated over land between February 16th through the 19th (NASA, Land Rapid Response Team, 2024). Atmospheric rivers and offshore continental flows led Tropical Cyclone Lincoln to develop into a weaker storm, with the remainder referred to as Ex-Tropical Cyclone Lincoln 07U, then present on the North-West coast of Western Australia, where further dissipation occurred.

Ken Farmer, an Exmouth Australian local, sincerely stated to Australia Broadcasting. . . "you can't be complacent." (ABC, 2024) Due to nature's dynamic attitude, it is important to take storm alerts seriously and take precautions. Future climate change events may erode essential aid pathways, so it is important for communities to come together to help one another, as it strengthens bonds. Being prepared means reaching out to others who may need an extra hand, strengthening community ties as the global prepares for extreme weather occurrences.

BURUNDI'S GENOCIDE

THE CRISIS THAT ERUPTED RWANDA



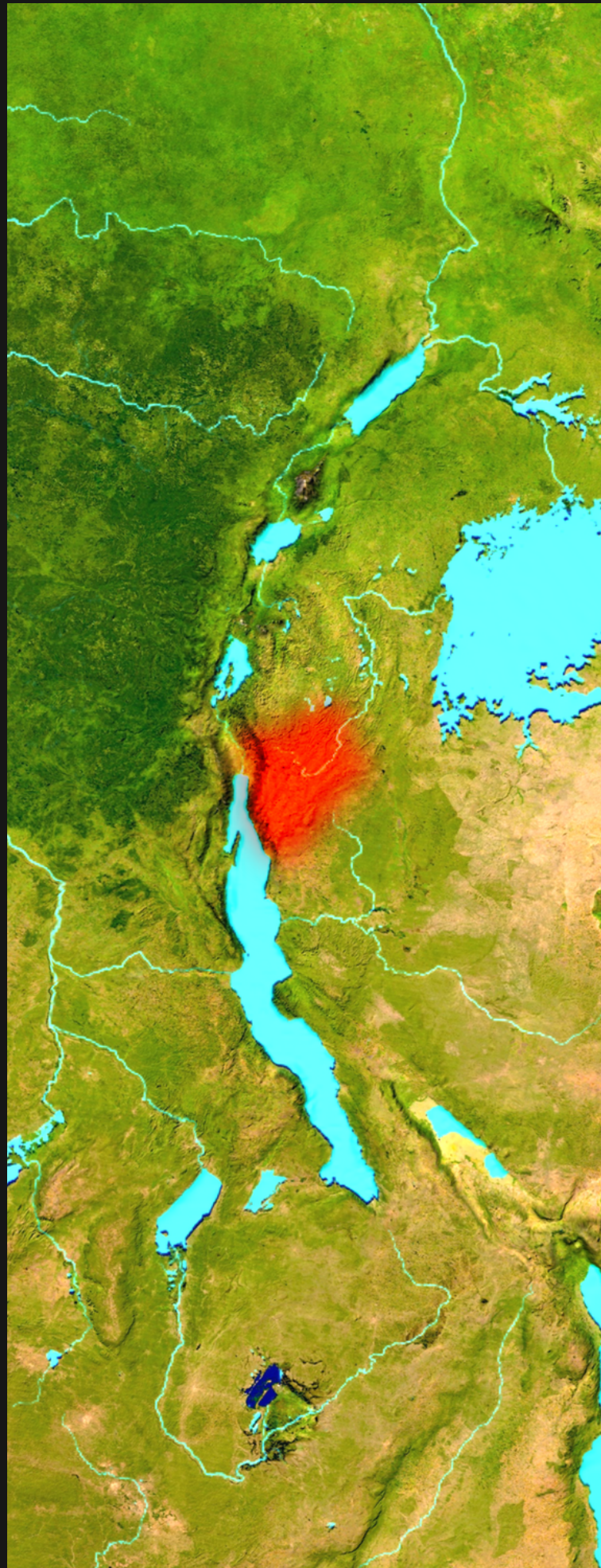
The mid-90s was a period of historic violence in Central Africa. The region would play out some of history's worst nightmares. From millions dead in the DRC to a mass genocide in Rwanda, Central Africa would witness the horrors of humanity. However, south of Rwanda laid a small and relatively overlooked nation known as Burundi, which prior to the Rwanda genocide, would witness one of the worst ethnic conflicts, losing over 100,000 people in just two months in 1993. It would be one of the most devastating conflicts at the time and would jump-start Rwanda's own ethnic conflict in 1994. However, due to the unfortunate fame of the Rwandan Genocide and the wars in the Congo, a relative lack of research and general public knowledge is known of the crisis. A crisis that would take many lives and leave the nation in a very disastrous state afterwards.

The unfortunate realities of the Burundian crisis begin in a similar place to Rwanda. In the ashes of Belgium's controversial and deadly colonial regime lays the remnants of the Burundian and Rwandan colonial administration which separated the ethnic groups of the region by placing the Tutsis ahead of the Hutus. Belgium distinguished these groups by their apparent levels of civilized intelligence, in which the Belgians determined that the Tutsi were superior. This complex and flawed ethnic system meant that many people post-colonialism began to form distinct extremist groups that sought the extermination or end of the other ethnic groups of the region. These groups were relatively small until the downfall of Burundi's government in the late 80s to early 90s.

In the 90s, the ethnic makeup of Burundi was very complicated. "Tutsi dominated political, economic, and military life in Burundi until the early 1990s. Following internal and foreign pressure for reform, the elite permitted the establishment of a multi-party electoral system. In June 1993, the first Hutu president of Burundi, Melchior Ndadaye, was elected, but he was assassinated on October 21 in the course of a coup attempt by the largely Tutsi army." (HRW, 2002). This coup attempt would set the stage for the string of murdered officials in the coming days. "...addressed to the Secretary-General in which the representative of Burundi informed him that, on the night of 20-21 October 1993, a group of soldiers had attacked the Presidential palace and the residences of a number of political leaders and that the President and other Government leaders had been executed." (UN, 2024). This crisis would destroy the country internally. The ensuing violence would spread throughout the country in a matter of days.

Hutu militia forces and Tutsi forces immediately began to block off their respective neighborhoods of the country and began to launch attacks across the region (HRW, 2002). Within weeks of the coup, thousands had been killed, and hundreds of thousands had been made refugees. It was one of the fastest escalations of violence and began to spark ethnic conflicts in Rwanda and the DRC. This spread of violence was catastrophic. The constitutional conflict following the coup would only further the issues as all members set to take over in case of assassination had themselves been killed. Even the President of Rwanda, who supported the de-escalation of violence, was killed, sparking an intense border crisis between the two countries (UN, 2024, HRW, 2002).

"Splinter groups of extremist Tutsi sought to achieve their objectives, such as representation in the cabinet, by "dead city" demonstrations. In February, April, and August, they shut down the capital by barricades, threats, and attacks on those who dared to move around Bujumbura. Each such demonstration resulted in several dozen people dead or injured. Army and police rarely intervened to restore order in these incidents and actually participated in some of them.... Extremist Hutu began training and arming underground militia groups. Throughout the year they staged ambushes and small attacks on soldiers and on camps where displaced Tutsi were housed. In early May, for example, they killed three soldiers in an ambush in the northern province of Ngozi and in June two more were killed in the section of the capital, Bujumbura, known as Kamenga. The army responded to those attacks, killing Hutu indiscriminately."(HRW, 2002).





This violence was not quickly handled by the international community, which instead saw the potential for diplomatic de-escalation first and foremost. A problem faced in the later Rwandan genocide. Whether it was Tutsis removing Hutus from their homes, blockades preventing food from entering, Hutu militias killing indiscriminately, or the Tutsi army ravaging towns, it was clear that a military solution was necessary in November of 1993. Months after the violence and genocide had started, the international community under the UN began to recommend an international force to enter the nation to establish stability and end the violence (UN, 2024, UNFPA, 2001).

However, stability had long been lost by the winter of 1993. FRODEBU (Hutu-led group) and the UPRONA (Tutsi/Hutu-led group) had long been struggling to regain control, especially as members of their parties were committing violence rapidly. It would take till French diplomatic involvement occurred for the violence to slow. French, American, and Belgian pressure began to slow the situation as the threat of international conflict spread. By December of 1993, the spread of violence had relatively ceased, although the Rwandan conflict would spark some violence throughout 1994. Throughout the conflict, around 116,059 people died, although some estimates believe that the number was closer to 500,000 (UN, 2024). The death toll estimates were so scattered since many were buried in mass graves indiscriminately. Few investigations occurred and a general lack of knowledge of the crisis led to a complete overlook of it as soon as the Rwandan genocide occurred. Due to this, very few tribunals were held to prosecute anyone for their crimes against humanity. "The Burundi authorities have made no effective response to halt the continuing violence. The first governmental commission was named to investigate the assassination and the attempted coup d'etat of October 1993, and the ensuing killings accomplished nothing. In September, new commissions were established at the provincial level to gather information about the events. There have been no trials of any of the authors of the coup or the subsequent massacres." (HRW, 2002).

Since the end of the genocide officially in 1993, Burundi has struggled to recover and has not experienced the economic revolution that its northern neighbor, Rwanda, has had. Even after the genocide, the civil war would spark again in 1997-1999, continuing till 2005, and would result in the deaths of hundreds of thousands of people (BBC, 2008). The UN, EU, UNFPA, ONUB, and the Burundian government have attempted to find information about the perpetrators of the genocide and attempt to arrest any heads of government involved. Many of these attempts have been in vain. Burundi today is a nation that appears always at the cusp of breakdown. After 2005, crises hit Burundi in 2015, 2016, and 2022. These issues have long meant that the country's development and economic progress have slowed, resulting in a population generally apathetic to political change or progress, threatening national stability. Ultimately, this has resulted in a country plagued by its past. A past that has been heavily overshadowed by Rwanda and the DRC, which both had similar conflicts simultaneously. Burundi would never see their levels of international support nor their media attention. This presents a significant problem for the country's future as little international assistance has resulted in one of the slowest recoveries of a central African country, both in its economy and socio-political shift. Regardless, the history of the turbulent 90s has plagued the nation for the foreseeable future. Without any legal judgment or protections placed on Burundi's ruling elite, it is unlikely the past will be resolved anytime soon as one of history's fastest genocides remains unknown and overshadowed in the world.

GLOBAL. IS A CHANGIN'

HOW OUR NEWS ROOM WILL LOOK IN
THE FUTURE.



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BRITISH HONDURAS,
THE CEASEFIRE DEBACLE,
PRO-UKRAINE GROUPS
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