

FULLY UPDATED

**CONSPIRACY TO MURDER**  
**THE RWANDAN GENOCIDE**

LINDA MELVERN

"An epic and shaming  
story of culpability and  
missed opportunities...  
in the finest traditions of  
investigative journalism."

**JOHN PILGER**

Linda Melvern

# CONSPIRACY TO MURDER—The Rwandan Genocide

Verso

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**Voted best book on Africa by Foreign Affairs, 2004.**

An Outstanding Academic Title: Choice

*“Essential... quite possibly the definitive account of the origins of the tragedy. Melvern relies heavily on material that had not been available to earlier researchers, such as captured Rwandan government documents... Scholars will appreciate the meticulous research and extensive endnotes. Melvern’s writing is clear and direct. Accessible to all readers.”*

Linda Melvern is a widely published investigative journalist and author. She is an Honorary Professor in the Department of International Politics, University of Wales, Aberystwyth. A consultant to the Military One prosecution team at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, part of her archive of documents is used to show the planning and progress of the 1994 genocide. Linda Melvern has written six books of non-fiction and is widely published in the British press and academic journals. She is the second vice-President of the International Association of Genocide Scholars.

Her previous books include *The Ultimate Crime* (Allison and Busby, 1995) which traces the secret history of the UN’s first fifty years and became the basis of a TV series for Channel Four, the three-part “UN Blues” broadcast in January 1995. *“A People Betrayed. The Role of the West in Rwanda’s Genocide”*, (Zed Books, 2000), now in its sixth impression, is widely used as source material by students in universities world-wide and was described as “the best overall account of the background to the genocide, and the failure to prevent it...the investigation is hers, and hers alone. She discovered so much that we did not know”. *Lt-General Romeo Dallaire, Force Commander, UN Assistance Mission for Rwanda, (UNAMIR) 1994*. Critics said of “*Conspiracy to Murder*”:

*“This is a fascinating, sickening book with some profoundly depressing implications as to the integrity of our political institutions”,*  
James Urquhart, Daily Telegraph

*“It is a devastating account of the West’s failure to act, in the face of clear evidence that a planned genocide was taking place. The British role is a deeply troubling one”.*

Magnus Linklater, The Times.

*“For a chronicle of the events that unfolded between April and June 1994, the book is unsurpassed. It is hard to imagine that there could be any significant facts...that would contribute to your knowledge of what happened.. the book is really a starting point for considering crucial questions about the meaning of the genocide.. Melvern’s text will no doubt in future become indispensable to those who do ask questions about the genocide’s appalling excesses and the unspeakable extremities of the violence perpetrated... It is thorough, uncompromising in its attention to detail”.*

Leonhard Praeg. Journal of Contemporary African Studies.

*“Melvern’s book is outstanding. She writes clearly and with no attempt at cheap dramatisation of horror. Her research has been exhaustive and the clarity of her chronology is the most damning of all indictments against those who looked the other way in the years leading up to 1994. ...objectivity subsidises credibility. In this way her work ranks with the 2003 book, Gulag”.*

Robert Kirby. Mail and Guardian.