

Shells slam into Kigali stadium, 20 killed

Reuters, April 19, 1994

KIGALI, April 19 (Reuter) - Artillery bombardments raged across the Rwandan capital on Tuesday and shells hit the city's main sports stadium, killing some 20 people and wounding 50, U.N. officers said.

They said the estimated 20 people were killed and 50 were wounded by the first shell that hit Amahoro Stadium, where 4,000 hungry and terrified refugees were forced to take sanctuary.

U.N. peacekeeping forces were attempting to evacuate the casualties from the stadium, which is near some of the worst battle zones since fighting erupted in the Rwandan capital on April 6.

The International Committee of the Red Cross has been unable to reach the stadium since the killing started but had reported the refugees had no shelter and were extremely short of food and water.

The shelling between the rebel Rwanda Patriotic Front and government forces broke out a day after the U.N. representative to Rwanda called on both sides to show willingness to end all hostilities.

(c) Reuters Limited 1994