

In a group so large it could be tracked by satellite, hundreds of thousands of refugees abandon camps in Zaire in November and begin a journey home to Rwanda, which they had fled to escape a civil war. Closing of the camps forces the refugees to flee.



Mass graves containing the bodies of Muslims, allegedly murdered by Serbs in 1992 during the Bosnian civil war, are excavated in Bosnia-Herzegovina throughout the year as a shaky peace negotiated in 1995 continues.



On July 17, Trans World Airlines Flight 800 explodes 13,700 feet above the Atlantic Ocean, killing all 230 passengers and crew members. The Boeing 747-100 was en route to Paris from New York. The cause of the explosion remains a mystery.

blamed for a truck bomb that kills 19 U.S. service people on June 25 in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia. Mourners grieve at a memorial service held in Khobar, Saudi Arabia.

More than 300 Tutsi refugees in the African country of Burundi are slain by Hutus, a rival ethnic group. The covered bodies, mostly women and children, illustrate the ferocity of the conflict.



Israeli right-wing leader Benjamin Netanyahu wins the May 1996 election for Prime Minister, defeating Prime Minister Shimon Peres, whom many Israelis think is making too many concessions to Israel's Arab neighbors.



A lone gunman kills 16 kindergartners, their teacher, and then himself, at a Dunblane, Scotland school in March 1996. A month after the tragedy, officials tear down the school gymnasium in which the shootings occurred.

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