

Your Article on Rwanda

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David Barouski

From: <barud@hush.com>

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To: hakiza@neighborhoodcare.org

Dear Mr. Hakizimana,

Please allow me to introduce myself. My name is David Barouski. I am a 27 year-old American student and researcher on Central African affairs. I have interviewed and spoken to some survivors of the RPF/A crimes in Rwanda and have published some articles and a book on central Africa. In 2006, I travelled to Rwanda and RDC by myself unattached to any group. I was threatened at gunpoint by the DMI and escaped several attempts to apprehend me for detention and likely death according to UN Security Advisors and people in the Human Rights community. Only with God's grace am I alive today.

While in Rwanda, I was able to see the real regime of the RPF, not the one presented to the American public. I saw a young Hutu man beaten by a mob in the middle of Kigali during the Genocide memorial period (end of June when I saw it) to 'put them in their place' as I was told later. I saw people walking by stop, completely cross the street just so they could kick this man. The Local Defense Force soldier was just watching and laughing.

For what it is worth coming from me, I am very deeply sorry for your personal losses and the loss of the entire Rwandan community. I have heard many stories much like yours from survivors, yet there is no justice. For what it is worth coming from a white non-Rwandan, I exalt your bravery in speaking out as there is no doubt Sharangabo Rugafiri will launch hateful propaganda against you. Please know that there are people in America like myself who not only believe what you say and know it is true, we are fighting to get the word out to the American people. You are never alone. Here in America, the information is not known because my Government supports RPF, and I am trying to spread the truth to the American people.

If you would ever consider talking more about your experiences in Rwanda, I would be honored to speak with you and, if you want to, I can publish something directed to an American audience. I don't do

it for money, I do it because it is the right thing to do and is a sense of duty.

May God bless you, your family, friends, and your organization.

With Respect and Blessings,