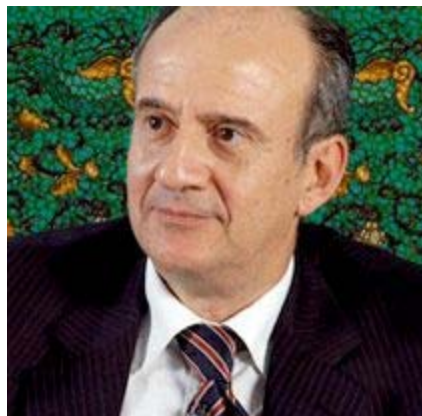




Voices from the Rwanda Tribunal

Official Transcript: Alessandro Caldarone (5 of 12)



Role:	Senior Officer of External Relations
Country of Origin:	Italy
Interview Date:	3 November 2008
Location:	Arusha, Tanzania
Interviewers:	Lisa P. Nathan Donald J Horowitz
Videographer:	Nell Carden Grey
Interpreter:	None

Interview Summary

Alessandro Caldarone compares his experiences at the ICTR with his time at the EU-Human Rights Mission in Rwanda providing technical assistance. Caldarone reflects on a personal eye-opening moment during the defense of accused genocidaires when he realized that the perpetrators were not monsters but human beings. He questions the concept of 'victim' in the Rwandan context where everybody is, in some sense, victimized. He also suggests that the ICTR should be considered an extension of Rwandan justice.

The transcript of Part 5 begins on the following page.

Part 5

- 00:00 Lisa P. Nathan: So, is there anything that you would like the Rwandan people to know about the ICTR?**
- 00:08 The Rwandan people to know about ICTR, (___) – you know ICTR has been created in the statute is to contribute to the national reconciliation of Rwanda. I don't know if we are contributing really. I, I, I'm not sure.
- 00:23 I, I know, for sure we have, technically speaking, we have a lot of decisions. We have, w-, w-, – the detainees received a fair defense, effective defense. So, I think our trials are fair. Technically speaking, they are fair.
- 00:46 Contribute to national reconciliation of the Rwandese to know something else. We have a representative of Rwanda who is here, Mr. (____). Before him was another one, Mr. (____). When they want to know anything about ICTR, me I'm always available to discuss with them. I don't think there is any reason to keep any secret or, because we don't have secrets as such.
- 01:08 And for me, this tribunal is an extension of the Rwandan justice because without ICTR, those people would not have even been tried because nobody, even now, they, they don't want to give to the Rwandese the possibility to try their own people. We, we are trying their own people, the Rwandese.
- 01:31 So for me, this tribunal is an extension of justice, of the hands of justice of the Rwandese. That is our role. I'm Italian. The only thing that I can do is just let me do it, but it's up to them to make a judgment. It's not up to me. Me, I just try to do what, what I can.
- 01:50 LPN: Thank you. So, when you came to work here at the, the beginning when you first started working for the ICTR, did you have some goals, something that you wanted to accomplish in your time here?**
- 02:07 You know, when I came in ICTR it was more – it, it was a, a passion almost, yeah, triggered by what I've seen in Rwanda, the drama of the Rwandese. It, it, it put me in a – I want to do something. I don't know exactly what. Even now, I don't know exactly what because it's so complex, everything.
- 02:33 But, I did not, I, you know, like a goal, if I can do even a little bit for that country, for the people that I know, and if I, I did it, I feel proud of myself. I mean, I received a cow so something I did it and this pushed me to continuous in this way.
- 02:55 Despite all, all the difficulties because we have difficulties. I mean, internal difficulties also. The life is a difficulty but it's how you react to the difficulties which is important. And that,

I'm owner of that. I mean, I, my mind, nobody can manipulate. My mind is here. For the rest, yeah.