

Official Transcript: Ayodeji Fadugba (Part 4 of 9)



Role:	Chief of Information and Evidence
Country of Origin:	Nigeria
Interview Date:	23 October 2008
Location:	Arusha, Tanzania
Interviewers:	Lisa P. Nathan John McKay
Videographer:	Max Andrews
Interpreter:	None

Interview Summary

Ayodeji Fadugba discusses her role overseeing the management and security of evidence. She describes the ways in which information security has evolved at the Tribunal and differentiates between processes of collecting and storing evidence. She reflects on the ICTR as a method of 'crisis management' immediately following the events in Rwanda, but states that as details of particular cases unfolded, the ICTR's role in documenting events shifted. She reflects on her personal emotional response following the release of a judgment.

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Part 4

- 00:00** Lisa P. Nathan: So I'm going to shift my questions a little bit a-, slightly away from your role here as a professional, but your role here as a human being. So, as the, the different documents that you have dealt with, and now in your role as Chief of Information and Evidence, you have been exposed to some pretty brutal facts basically.
- 00:25 Yeah, yeah.
- 00:27** LPN: And I'm wonderi-, I'm asking if you can reflect on how this experience has affected you as a human being. It's a difficult question so take your time. I think it's one you've thought about.
- 00:40 Yeah, from time to time you do think about that from time to time. I think when you first come, I came in as a case manager so I was first-line in contact with the documents, preparing the documents. So you, you get to know the facts. They are gruesome and your first reaction, your first reaction is actual-, actually some degree of anger, some degree of fear, especially at the time we were in Kigali. And so you have this fear – "What, what kind of people would do this?"
- 01:10 But I think, because you have so much work to do also, I think you, you snap out of it and then you get on with the business. And I also personally – the way it has affected me professionally is that if I'm having challenges, if I'm having problems whether with colleagues, whether with management, I can be angry for a day or two, but I always I'm able to then think about the fact that it's not about me, you know.
- 01:41 It's about people who can't do anything about what's happened to them and this is a little contribution that I can, you know, make and so really whoever the, whoever the object is of this, of this – my recent feeling. It's not about the person, it's something bigger than that and then, you know, it allows you to put things in perspective.
- 02:08** LPN: Do, does the investigation team in Kigali – are they working under you?
- 02:13 No.
- 02:14** LPN: N-, not the investigators in the field but the information officer there.
- 02:18 Yes, yes, i-, it's, it's, it's a, it's just a, a branch of this section in Kigali.
- 02:23** LPN: And do you visit Kigali sometimes?
- 02:27 Oh yes, ideally I should go four, five times a year, but I'm, I'm lucky if I get three times a year. But I also have, you know like I said, we have four, four units. So, each unit is headed by a team leader. There's a supervisor within each unit so even if I don't visit, they visit for one thing or the other.
- 02:49 So there is contact frequently with Kigali. Not as much as we would have liked because like I said one of the challenges of being here is the fact that, you know, imperatives of

the moment take over long term planning. So it's sometimes y-, I have to stop myself and say "You know what? We need to do this in Kigali, we need to do that in Kigali." And so Kigali feels neglected.

03:12 I mean, I wouldn't lie to you, that is an issue, that the people in Kigali office if you raise some issues they'll say, "Oh but we didn't see anyone, we've been, not been getting feedback," you know. So, so that is, that is, th-, that is, one of the, that would be one of the challenges that I see with the way the s-, the s-, the, the, the offices are set up.