

RWANDA

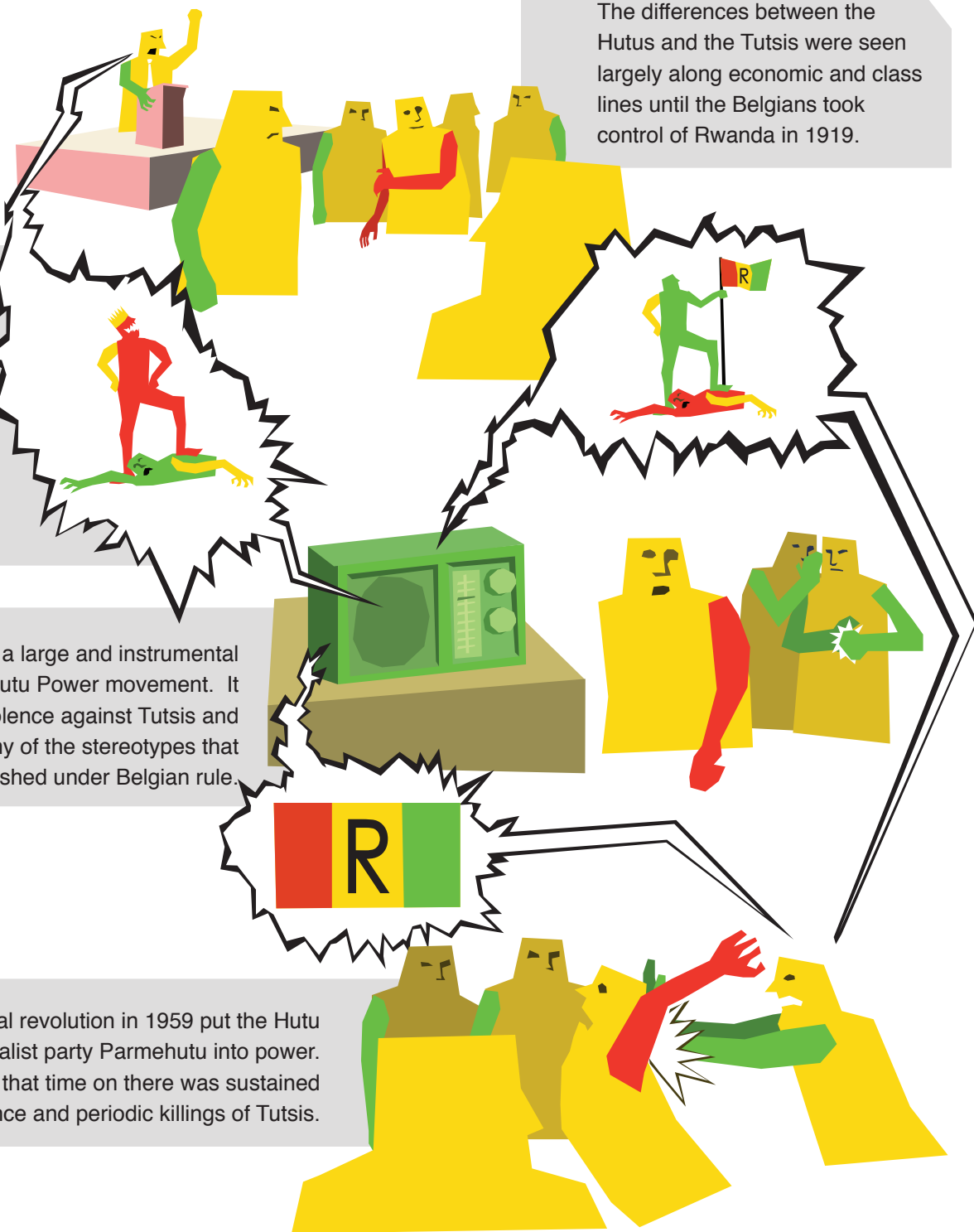
"You cockroaches must know you are made of flesh.
We won't let you kill. We will kill you"
—RTLM Radio, April 7, 1994

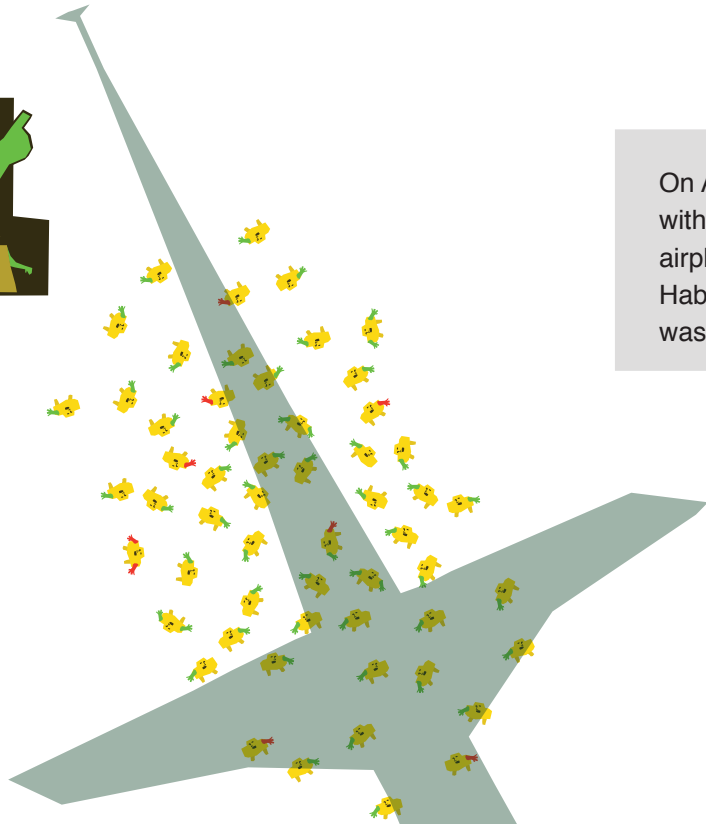
The differences between the Hutus and the Tutsis were seen largely along economic and class lines until the Belgians took control of Rwanda in 1919.

The Belgians cultivated the notion of racial differences between the two groups, creating stereotypes and fostering hatred by the Hutus for the ruling class Tutsis.

RTLM radio was a large and instrumental part of the Hutu Power movement. It encouraged violence against Tutsis and propagated many of the stereotypes that were established under Belgian rule.

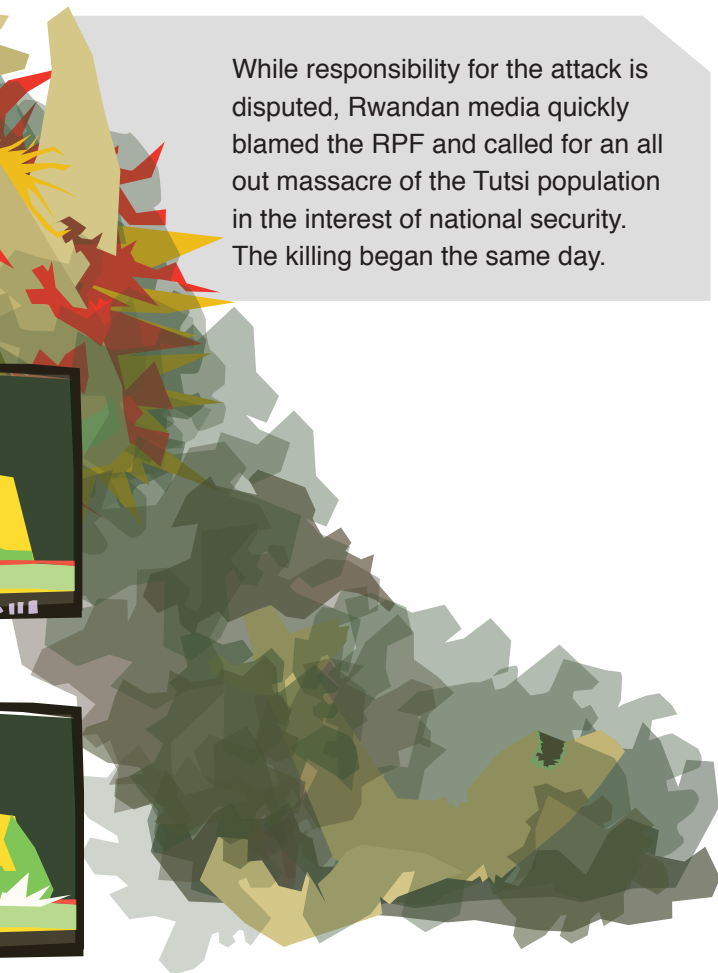
A social revolution in 1959 put the Hutu nationalist party Parmehutu into power. From that time on there was sustained violence and periodic killings of Tutsis.

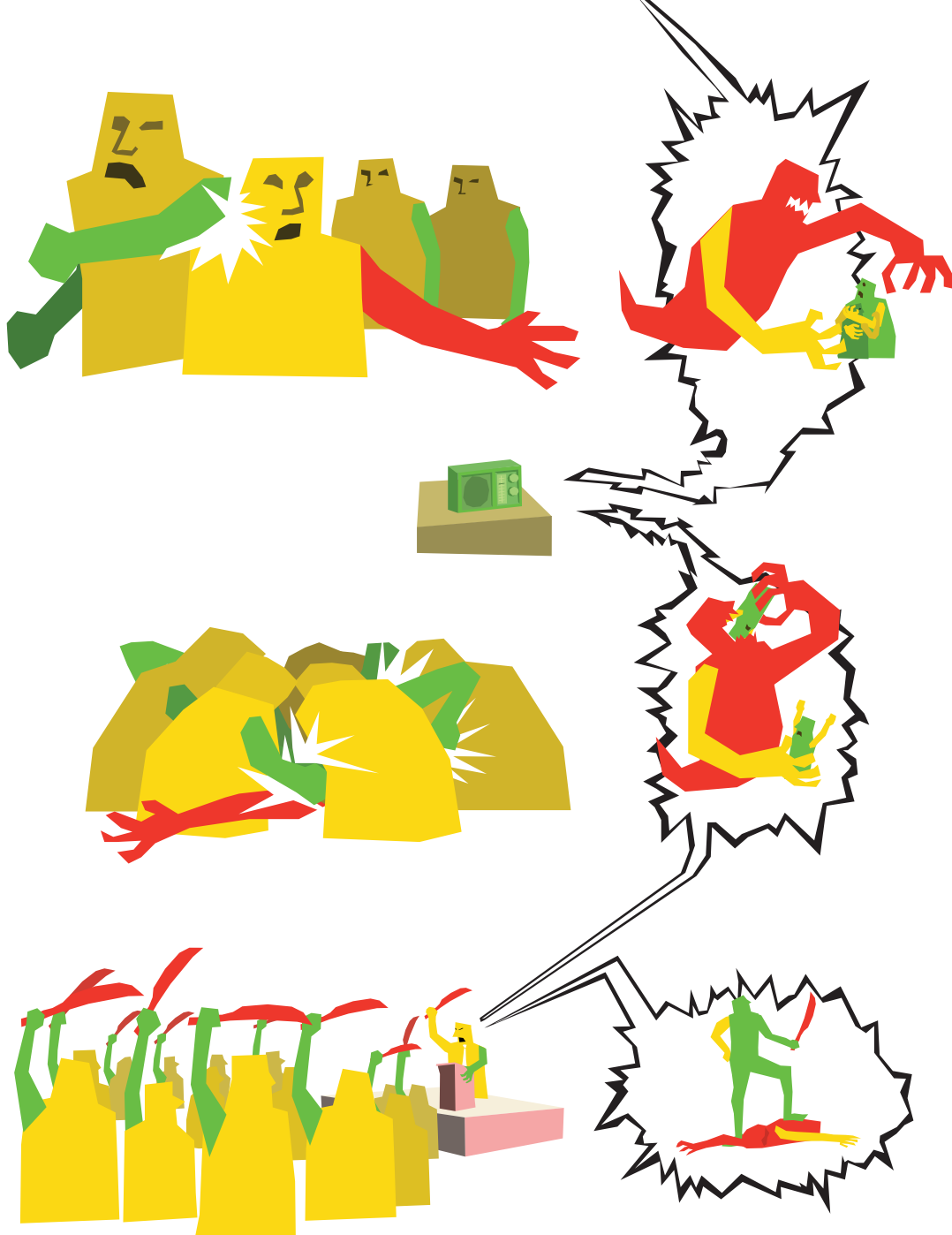




On April 6, 1994, months after signing a treaty with the Tutsi led Rwandan Patriotic Front the airplane carrying Rwandan President Juvénal Habyarimana and the Hutu president of Burundi was shot down as it was landing in Kigali.

While responsibility for the attack is disputed, Rwandan media quickly blamed the RPF and called for an all out massacre of the Tutsi population in the interest of national security. The killing began the same day.





Beginning April 6, 1994, and continuing for the next 100 days Hutus began a systematic extermination of the Tutsi population. Using primarily machetes to do the killing, over 800,000 Tutsis and moderate Hutus were murdered while the UN and the rest of the world sat by and watched.

