To the Editor:

In “Rwanda’s Shrouded Nightmare” (Op-Ed, Jan. 10), Michael Dobbs questions whether the 1994 genocide of the Tutsi was planned. He casts aspersions on the informant “Jean-Pierre,” who warned Brig. Gen. Roméo Dallaire, the commander of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in Rwanda, of the extermination plans months before the genocide began.

Jean-Pierre even took a United Nations military officer to see the cache of weapons stockpiled for the massacres. A result was General Dallaire’s famous Jan. 11, 1994, fax warning to United Nations headquarters, which was ignored.

Mr. Dobbs’s “revelations” are nothing new. Efforts to discredit Jean-Pierre were central to the defense argument at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda that claimed that the killing was spontaneous, not a result of a conspiracy. But there was ample evidence for a genocide conspiracy that did not rely on Jean-Pierre.

Mr. Dobbs doesn’t mention the overwhelming evidence of planning that persuaded the judges of the tribunal to convict defendants of conspiracy to commit genocide.

LINDA MELVERN
GREGORY STANTON
London, Jan. 15, 2014

*The writers are, respectively, the author of “Conspiracy to Murder: The Rwandan Genocide” and the president of Genocide Watch. The letter was also signed by nine other academics, authors and international lawyers.*

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