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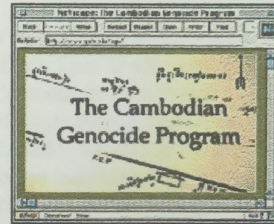
STORY PAGE

## 'Killing Fields' victims surface on the Internet

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From Correspondent Cynthia Tornquist

NEW HAVEN, Connecticut (CNN) -- Photographs of thousands of unidentified Cambodian men and women are now being posted on the Internet.



(www.yale.edu/ogp)

The idea is to allow families to identify missing loved ones, and to help officials and scholars research the atrocities of the Khmer Rouge regime.



Var (CNN)

"It would mean opening old wounds, but for others it may be a way of reconciling," said Monida Var, whose uncle was a genocide victim.

Researchers at Yale University have been gathering information for two years about the so-called "Killing Fields" of the Cambodian genocide, in which nearly two million people were killed between 1975 and 1979.

"To peruse these photographs on the Internet is an extremely moving experience -- to see these people who were condemned to death, the last evidence we have of their lives," said Ben Kiernan, director of Yale's Cambodian Genocide Program.



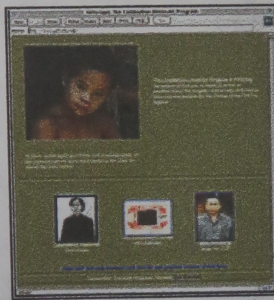
The researchers began putting their work on the Web this week, including maps detailing the sites of mass graves, biographies of the killers and internal security documents of the regime.



Kiernan (CNN)

"These documents implicate the highest level of the Pol Pot regime, including Pol Pot himself, in the mass killings that took place," Kiernan said.

The goal is to preserve the memory of the victims and help Cambodians come to term with their losses. It is also hoped that the information may one day be used to bring those responsible for the genocide to justice.



(www.yale.edu/ocp)

It may already be having an effect. Last Wednesday, Cambodia's First Prime Minister Prince Norodom Ranariddh restated his support for an international war crimes tribunal.

"We're in a new era for international law," said historian [Gregory Stanton](#).

"The Rwanda tribunal and Yugoslavia tribunals are the first efforts by the international community to actually enforce the genocide convention, so it makes it possible also to bring about prosecutions in Cambodia."

But some other observers aren't so sure.

"I think it's unlikely we'll ever have the satisfaction of seeing Pol Pot brought to trial. The political obstacles are simply too high," said [Dinah Pokempner](#) of Human Rights Watch.

Still, the fact the world can now learn through the immediate world of the Internet about Cambodia's tragedy at least offers some comfort to victims' families.

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