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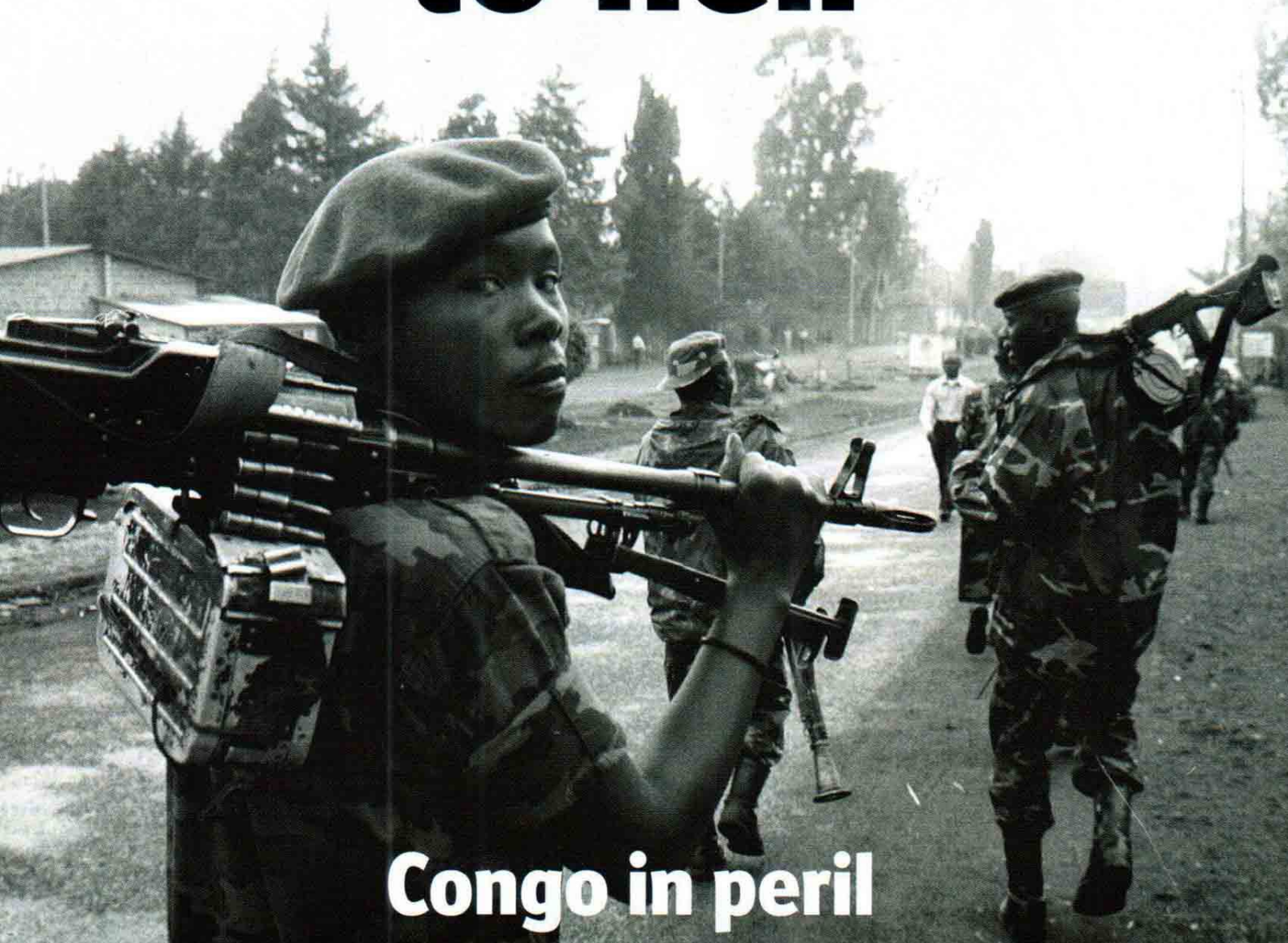
The tech race, China v America

How doctors rig the job market

Women on boards: do quotas work?

Frankenstein, still a monster hit

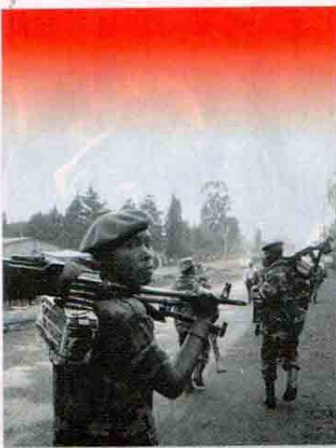
Heading back to hell



Congo in peril



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The war in Congo cost more lives than any other since the 1940s. It may be about to start again: leader, page 9. Portrait of a country on the brink of disaster, page 18

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Women on boards Ten years after Norway introduced them, quotas have spread. But there are better ways to promote women: leader, page 10. They have done little to boost corporate performance or to help women lower down, page 55



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Chinese tech v American tech Which of the world's two superpowers has the most powerful technology industry? Schumpeter, page 61. Humans do not always understand how artificial-intelligence systems make choices. Don't panic: leader, page 10. AIs now do real work. That they cannot explain their own actions is a problem, page 70

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Politics



Jacob Zuma resigned as **South Africa's** president, the evening before a no-confidence vote was scheduled in parliament. The rand surged. Mr Zuma is beset by corruption allegations. The new president, Cyril Ramaphosa, a former union boss and tycoon, is not.

Morgan Tsvangirai died from cancer, aged 65. He led the opposition to Zimbabwe's Robert Mugabe even after regime thugs tried to throw him off a tall building. He won a presidential election in 2008, but Mr Mugabe won the count.

Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, a former president of **Liberia**, was awarded the \$5m Ibrahim prize for African rulers who govern well and retire when their time is up. It is only the fifth time that the prize has been awarded since it was established in 2007, because of a lack of suitable recipients.

Police in **Israel** concluded two investigations into Benjamin Netanyahu, the prime minister, with a recommendation that he face charges of bribery and fraud. The attorney-general has to decide whether to press charges. Mr Netanyahu, who criticised the police, has denied wrongdoing.

The political crisis in Israel came just a few days after an aerial battle over **Syria**, caused by an **Iranian** drone that crossed into Israeli territory. Israel shot down the drone and bombed its control station in Syria. It launched a second wave of attacks against Syrian air defences after an Israeli jet was shot down, injuring its two pilots.

Russian whispers

Halbe Zijlstra stepped down as **Dutch** foreign minister, after admitting he had fabricated a story about overhearing Vladimir Putin explaining his ambition to create a "greater Russia" at his dacha in 2006. Mr Zijlstra said the story had been relayed to him by the former boss of Shell, Jeroen van der Veer. Mr van der Veer said he had been misunderstood.

MPs from **Italy's** Five Star Movement were accused of renegeing on a pledge to donate part of their salaries to a fund for small businesses. Two MPs resigned. The party's candidate for prime minister pledged to throw out the "bad apples".

Ukraine deported Mikheil Saakashvili, a former president of **Georgia**, to **Poland**. In 2015 Mr Saakashvili was enlisted by Ukraine's president, Petro Poroshenko, to fight corruption, but they fell out and he accused the president of abetting corruption himself. Mr Saakashvili is stateless, having been stripped of Georgian and Ukrainian citizenship.

A **plane** crashed soon after taking off from Moscow's Domodedovo airport, killing all 71 people on board. It was the world's first fatal crash of a passenger jet airliner since November 2016.

No succour



Colombia announced a tightening of border security to halt the flow of thousands of Venezuelans fleeing the economic and political crisis in their country. Peru disinvented **Venezuela's** authoritarian socialist president, Nicolás Maduro, from a regional summit, expressing concerns that elec-

tions scheduled for April 22nd will be neither free nor fair.

Former fighters from the **FARC** in **Colombia** said they were suspending all campaigning for elections over fears for their safety. The FARC, a rebel army which remade itself as a political party after signing peace accords with Colombia's government, denounced a "co-ordinated plan" of attacks and threats, including the murder of one former rebel.

Police in **Guatemala** arrested Álvaro Colom, a former president, and most of his former cabinet in a fraud case involving a new bus system in the capital. The accused include Juan Alberto Fuentes Knight, a former finance minister who is the chairman of **Oxfam International**. It has not been a good week for the charity, which has been damaged by revelations that its aid workers paid for sex with prostitutes in Haiti.

A cloud over Mr Sun

Sun Zhengcai, a former member of **China's** Politburo who was once tipped as a successor to Xi Jinping, was charged with taking bribes. Mr Sun was purged by the Communist Party last year when he was leader of Chongqing, a region in the south-west. He was the most senior serving politician to face allegations in Mr Xi's anti-corruption campaign. It is unclear whether his trial will be open to the public.

Malcolm Turnbull, **Australia's** prime minister, issued an edict banning sex between ministers and their staff. His coalition government, which holds a one-seat majority in parliament, has been hurt by revelations that Barnaby Joyce, the deputy prime minister and a campaigner for family values, had an affair with an aide who is now carrying his baby.

In **Sri Lanka** the new party led by Mahinda Rajapaksa, a controversial former president, claimed a landslide victory in local elections. It was a remarkable comeback for a politician who was defeated at the polls

in 2015, tainted by allegations of overseeing war crimes when he crushed Tamil rebels in the country's civil war, and of corruption.

A court in **South Korea** sentenced the confidante linked to last year's downfall of Park Geun-hye as president to 20 years in prison. Choi Soon-sil was convicted of various corruption charges.



America's vice-president, Mike Pence, said that the United States would increase pressure on **North Korea** over its missile programme, but suggested that talks were not off the agenda. Mr Pence met South Korea's president, Moon Jae-in, at the Winter Olympics. Pundits praised the stylish outfits of Kim Yo Jong, the sister of North Korea's blood-drenched dictator.

The steady drumbeat of death

At least 17 people were shot dead at a school in Florida. A 19-year-old pupil, who had been expelled, was arrested. It was America's worst **school shooting** since the Sandy Hook massacre in 2012.

The handling of allegations of domestic abuse against a **White House** aide reportedly caused John Kelly to consider resigning as chief of staff. Rob Porter stepped down from his job as staff secretary after both his former wives accused him of physical abuse. Mr Porter denies the accusations.

Dan Coats, the director of national intelligence, warned that Russia is preparing to interfere in this year's mid-term **elections**, describing its meddling as "pervasive". Mr Coats told senators that: "Frankly, the United States is under attack."