

Burundi, Rwandan presidents killed - diplomats.

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BUJUMBURA, April 6 (Reuter) - The presidents of Burundi and neighbouring Rwanda were killed on Wednesday night when a rocket downed their plane as it landed in Rwanda, Western diplomats said.

The diplomats in the Burundian capital of Bujumbura said they were convinced both Burundi President Cyprien Ntaryamira and Rwandan President Juvenal Habyarimana were killed in the attack.

"We are convinced they were both killed. The plane went down and it seems there were no survivors. Both presidents were aboard the plane," one diplomat said.

"It is a terrible, terrible catastrophe for both countries at this very dangerous time," he said. "Anything could happen." But he added that Bujumbura was quiet.

Burundian Parliament President Sylvestre Ntibantuganya made a brief address to the nation on television after the crash, saying he had learned the plane carrying both presidents had problems and a crisis committee had been formed to investigate.

He appealed for calm but gave no details on the fate of the presidents. Under the Burundian constitution, the head of parliament becomes acting head of state in the event of the president's death.

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