

Rwanda priests killed by military, says Belga.

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BRUSSELS, April 7 (Reuter) - At least 17 Rwandan priests were killed by troops in the capital Kigali on Thursday in a spate of murder and pillaging following the death of the presidents of Rwanda and Burundi, Belga news agency reported.

“In one place 17 Rwandan priests were killed by the military while in another area eight others were locked in a room after being separated from westerners,” the Belgian news agency said, quoting sources in Kigali.

Describing the situation as very tense in Kigali, Belga said soldiers had conducted killings and pillaged some areas in Kigali, while in others they were protecting people.

In Kigali, diplomats and witnesses said troops, presidential guards and gendarmes had rampaged through the capital following the killing of the two presidents.

Rwandan President Juvenal Habyarimana, 57, and Burundi President Cyprien Ntaryamira, 38, killed late on Wednesday when rockets downed their plane, were Hutu, the majority tribe in both countries long at odds with the Tutsi minority.

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