

Germans evacuees from Rwanda to arrive in Bonn

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BONN, April 10 (Reuter) - The German Foreign Ministry said that about 120 German nationals who fled the fighting in Rwanda left Burundi for Germany on Sunday.

A ministry spokesman said a German army plane was taking the Germans, and some 20 Swiss nationals, to Bonn and was expected to arrive shortly after midnight local time.

The passengers, who fled when tribal slaughter erupted after the rocket attack deaths of the presidents of Rwanda and neighbouring Burundi last week, had travelled on Saturday in convoys to Bujumbura, capital of Burundi.

The foreign ministry spokesman said two further convoys carrying about 100 Germans were heading out of Rwanda for Burundi. Bonn has estimated that a total of about 300 Germans lived in the central African country.

Germany's ambassador in the Rwandan capital Kigali and his wife had remained in the city.

The foreign office said another 11 Germans were sitting tight in the Kigali office of Germany's Deutsche Welle radio station, unable to get through military road blocks around the city and join the convoys.

Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel sent his gratitude to his Burundian colleague Jean-Marie Ngendahayo for the help Burundian authorities had given to the evacuation efforts.

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