

Belgian embassy in Rwanda closed - radio

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BRUSSELS, April 12 (Reuter) - The Belgian embassy in the Rwandan capital of Kigali was closed on Tuesday and the ambassador has arrived at the city's airport, Belgian BRTN radio said.

BRTN's correspondent at Kigali airport said ambassador Johan Swinnen had arrived there shortly before 1500 GMT.

"He stepped out of an armoured car of the Belgian blue helmets. The entire embassy is now entirely closed, entirely evacuated, all personnel has been brought to the airport," BRTN correspondent Gui Polspoel said.

The Belgian foreign ministry spokesman was not immediately available for comment but officials said a statement was due later today.

France closed its embassy earlier on Tuesday and the European Commission said on Monday it was also closing its delegation offices.

Belgium, like France and other Western nations, has evacuated most of its 1,500 nationals from the tiny central African state following the violence that flared last week after the president was assassinated in a rocket attack on his plane.

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