

German envoy says U.N. office in Kigali seen under fire.

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BONN, April 7 (Reuter) - Eyewitnesses saw the United Nations headquarters in the Rwandan capital Kigali come under mortar fire, Germany's ambassador to Kigali said on Thursday.

Ambassador Dieter Hoelscher told Germany's ARD television that the houses of two German families living near the U.N. building had been damaged.

Explosions rocked Kigali on Thursday and heavy fighting broke out around the presidential palace, hours after the presidents of Rwanda and Burundi were killed in a rocket attack on their plane, witnesses said.

The Rwandan government appealed for calm and asked residents to stay in their homes until further notice. It also ordered security forces to restore order.

Hoelscher said that in his opinion, the situation "indicates a dispute within the armed forces."

He said the atmosphere in Kigali was tense.

"The city is deathly quiet," he said.

The Rwandan government said its president Juvenal Habyarimana, 57, and Burundi President Cyprien Ntaryamira, 38, died along with two Burundi ministers and five senior Rwandan officials.

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