

France expects nationals out of Rwanda on Sunday

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PARIS, April 10 (Reuter) - France said it expected all of its remaining nationals to be evacuated from Rwanda on Sunday.

"We think that our 600 countrymen can be totally evacuated during the day," Cooperation Minister Michel Roussin told French radio.

As of early Sunday morning some 150 of the 600-strong French community in Rwanda had been evacuated, most in two airlifts from the capital Kigali.

Roussin said the French evacuation mission, involving 460 soldiers and five military transport planes, was operating smoothly and enabling nationals to flee the war-ravaged country quickly.

"We have been able to get people out of their homes, to gather them together at an agreed place and to take routes to the airport," Roussin said.

The Cooperation Minister, in charge of government relations with African countries, reiterated that France was neutral in the conflict between Rwandan government and rebel forces.

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