

More than 60 U.S. citizens escape Rwanda in convoy

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BUJUMBURA, April 10 (Reuter) - Sixty-five Americans have arrived safely in Burundi after fleeing the stricken Rwandan capital of Kigali and driving in an unescorted convoy across the border, U.S. officials said on Sunday.

The officials told Reuters Television cameraman Jan Vermaylen their convoy of more than 40 vehicles had reached Bujumbura late on Saturday and that they would be flown to Nairobi on Sunday.

The officials said only eight U.S. citizens remained in Kigali, which has been torn apart by fighting and ethnic bloodletting since Rwanda's president was assassinated last week. The officials said they had been unable to contact the eight before the convoy left.

There are some 230 U.S. citizens in Rwanda, mostly teachers and missionaries. The United States has told its citizens to leave the tiny central African state and has sent more than 300 Marines to Bujumbura to help with possible evacuation.

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