

Red Cross convoy reaches Kigali

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GENEVA, April 22 (Reuter) - The International Committee of the Red Cross said on Friday it had managed to send a medical convoy from Burundi to the embattled Rwandan capital of Kigali.

Spokesman Rene-Luc Thevoz said the seven-vehicle convoy would supply the two hospitals in Kigali operating under the Red Cross emblem and another hospital near the town of Gitarama.

The ICRC, which specialises in protecting civilians in conflict zones, is the only major aid agency still operating across Rwanda.

The Geneva-based organisation said on Thursday that hundreds of thousands may have died since ethnic conflict erupted in the former Belgian colony on April 6.

Thevoz said the ICRC had around 45 international staff in Rwanda, two-thirds of them in the capital. Friday's medical convoy, which left Burundi on Thursday, carried 20 staff including doctors and surgeons.

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