

Kigali [Foreign evacuations continue as fighting and killings persist in Kigali]

AFP, April 12, 1994

Throughout the day, troops with the UN peacekeeping force here negotiated brief halts in the fighting around the capital so that the last convoys of foreign nations could get to the airport.

But about 25 foreigners working for the International Red Cross remained behind to take care of the hundreds of wounded suffering in the city's hospitals.

The Red Cross workers said a surgical team was due to arrive Wednesday despite the fighting and another group from the organisation Doctors Without Borders was at the airport waiting for an opportunity to enter the city.

Meanwhile the tribal killings continued and more bodies could be seen strewn around the city's streets.

Umutoni, the RPF spokeswoman, said the rebels planned to form a broad-based administration as called for under the peace accord signed last

August aimed at reconciling the Hutu majority and Tutsi minority communities prior to free elections by 1995.

"We shall put in place a framework where everybody can act together in the spirit of" the Arusha peace agreement," Umutoni said. But she stressed that the RPF would not cooperate with what she called "the illegitimate (interim) government of assassins."

Some 1,600 people, including around 600 French nationals, have been evacuated by French military planes from Kigali since Saturday, the French foreign ministry said in Paris Tuesday.

According to the Belgian defence ministry, its evacuation operation should be completed within three or four days.

It said 446 Belgians had fled Rwanda, and about 1,000 others remained behind. It was impossible to know how many of those wanted to

be evacuated.

In Brussels Tuesday the Rwandan ambassador to Belgium, Francois Ngarukiyintwali, blamed UN negligence for the carnage.

He quoted a note sent by the

Rwandan foreign ministry to UN peacekeepers accusing the UN force of lax security around Kigali airport which allowed the presidential aircraft to be shot down.

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