

Germans arrive in Burundi after fleeing Rwanda

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BONN, April 9 (AFP) - Around 100 German nationals fled war-torn Rwanda Saturday by road, arriving during the afternoon in Bujumbura, the capital of neighbouring Burundi, the foreign ministry said here.

Based in southern Rwanda, the evacuees were mostly specialists working with aid organisations.

They fled with their families in a convoy, and reached Bujumbura without incident, a ministry spokesman said.

The spokesman said he had still had "no firm details" on the evacu-

ation of the remainder of Germany's 350-strong expatriate community in the east African nation, but added that an unspecified number of nationals based in the capital Kigali had also reached Bujumbura.

He added that Germany was in close contact with France and Belgium over a planned mass evacuation of westerners from the country, which is on the brink of civil war after three days of ethnic bloodshed which has claimed more than 1,000 lives.

mlm/jms/mt