

Paris "has taken steps" for evacuation, Juppe says

AFP, April 9, 1994

SHANGHAI, April 9 (AFP) - France "has taken steps" to evacuate 600 French nationals in Rwanda after the killing of a French couple in the central African country, French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe said here Saturday.

France landed 280 paratroopers at the airport in Kigali, the Rwandan capital, earlier in a declared operation to protect French citizens.

Juppe, who is in Shanghai accompanying Prime Minister Edouard Balladur on a visit to China, added that after the murders "we immediately activated evacuation procedures, which had been ready since yesterday (Friday)."

Juppe and Balladur return to Paris on Sunday.

sm-gca/ri/mig