

News Release

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SITUATION IN RWANDA

Exchanges of fire occurred in the capital Kigali during the night of October 4-5. This was the first time that fighting had occurred there since a force of some five hundred men, consisting of Rwanda refugees living in Uganda, had invaded a substantial area along the border on September 30. The situation has now returned to calm in the capital where a complete curfew has been proclaimed. The fighting is now concentrated in the northeast.

Two hundred and fifty-two Canadians, including eighty-five missionaries, have registered at the Canadian office in Kigali. Approximately one hundred and twenty-five of them are in the capital, including the aid workers who had been operating in the northeastern Mutura region.

The Canadian office reports that all Canadians in Kigali are safe. The Office is at present endeavouring to reach the other Canadians who are in various parts of Rwanda.

The Canadian office in Kigali is advising Canadian nationals to stay at home and to observe the curfew for their own safety. The majority of friendly Governments have given the same advice to their nationals.

Although the situation is calm in Kigali, the Department continues to follow developments closely and is maintaining contact with the Canadian office and friendly Governments.

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