Belgian officer says Rwanda ceasefire planned

Reuters, April 8, 1994

BRUSSELS, April 8 (Reuter) - The commander of the Belgian U.N. peacekeepers in Rwanda said on Friday a ceasefire was being negotiated between the warring sides and ought to come into effect by Saturday morning, Belgian state radio RTBF reported.

Colonel Luc Marchal said in an interview carried by the radio that "a ceasefire is in negotiation and ought to come into effect, if not in the coming hours then at the latest by 6.30

a.m. (0430 GMT) tomorrow (Saturday) morning".

He said fighting between government forces and Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) rebels continued on Friday afternoon as both sides appeared to be seeking to improve their territorial positions ahead of a ceasefire.

He did not make clear how a ceasefire had been arranged, and said that meetings "on a political level" were still going on.

(c) Reuters Limited 1994