

France asks Security Council to demand Rwandan armed forces cooperation

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UNITED NATIONS, April 7, (AFP) – France has called for a Security Council declaration calling for Rwandan armed forces to cooperate with UN forces stationed in the country.

“We think that the Security Council has to do something to reinforce the cooperation between the United Nations Mission for Aid to Rwanda and the armed forces of Rwanda,” said France’s UN ambassador Jean-Bernard Merimee.

Armed bands have been on ram-

page in Kigali, Rwanda’s capital since the plane carrying the presidents of Rwanda and Burundi crashed Wednesday afternoon, killing everyone on-board.

Some 2,500 UN personnel are in Rwanda but there are no plans to increase their number.

According to a UN spokesman, the force has been trying to coordinate with the Rwandan army and police forces to restore order.

“The high command is trying to keep the armed forces under control and they are succeeding in doing that,” said Merimee.

Conflicting reports of UN forces being killed have filtered out of Rwanda. However, Merimee said there seems to be no threat at present to foreigners in Rwanda.

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