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Rwanda-backed M23 group says it will withdraw from seized Congo town after US request

Rwanda-backed M23 rebels said they would withdraw from the eastern Congo town of Uvira at the request of the US administration, which had [criticized the seizure](#) of the town last week as a threat to mediation efforts.

The rebels [entered](#) Uvira, on the border with Burundi, less than a week after the presidents of Congo and Rwanda met with US President Donald Trump in Washington and [affirmed](#) their commitment to a peace deal known as the Washington Accords.

US Secretary of State [Marco Rubio](#) said on Saturday that Rwanda's actions in eastern Congo violated the Washington Accords and vowed to "take action to ensure promises made to the President are kept."

Rwanda denies supporting M23 and has blamed Congolese and Burundian forces for the renewed fighting. A report by a United Nations group of experts in July said Rwanda exercised command and control over the rebels.





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