

Train wreck kills more than 100 in Africa

by UPI

KINSHASA, Democratic Republic of Congo - A train wreck in the Democratic Republic of the Congo killed more than 100 people, the country's minister of information said Thursday. Most of the victims appear to have been clandestine passengers riding in freight cars, L'Observateur, a Kinshasa newspaper, reported. Most of the cars in the train derailed late Wednesday night about 200 miles from Kananga. Many more people were injured in the wreck. The engineer fled the wreck, fearing local villagers, the BBC said. The BBC's correspondent in Kinshasa said that the rail lines in the country were built by the Belgians to carry copper from the mines of the Katanga to the port. Because copper is now shipped out of South Africa, maintaining the lines has not been a high priority, but they remain an important means of transportation in a country with almost no roads.

Copyright © 2007, by United Press International. All Rights Reserved.

Train wreck kills more than 100 in Africa by UPI