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Counsellor : SJ Kruger

+DOKUMENTNOMMER.
98vnahk0492pa
AFHANDELINGSVOORRANG/BELANGRIKHEID
Prioriteit
+KODES.
KEN
+LEERNOMMER.
none
+SEKERHEIDSKLASSIFIKASIE.
Vertroulik
+DATUM.
19981007/16:04
+AFSENDER.
naiOol
+ONTVANGER VIR AKSIE.
ADDG
DDGA
+ONTVANGER TER INLIGTING.
MINR
ADJM
DIRG
CDAD
CDEI
DAAF
SEC1
DCEI
AA72
+ONDERWERP/VERYKING.
NAIROBI: STRAY BULLET HITS HEAD OF MISSION'S OFFICE
VERSEND AAN
98vnahk0492pa
+INHOUD.

Ministry :
Deputy Ministry : A Pahad
Director General : J Selebi
Foreign Service Management: JG v Niekerk
Chief Dir: Equatorial Africa etc: J Marx
Dir: Americas & Africa : NCG Theron
Subdir: Secretariat: D Naidoo
Dir: Central, East Africa etc:WLE Brewis
Subdir: East Africa : KC Keepile

Dep Director General Africa: AL Mongalo
Dep. Director General Admin: JJ Botha

1.

telephonic

The
Commissioner
reference.

discussion

between

Memela

on

the

7th

Mr

of

Mongalo
October

and
1998

High
has

BACKGROUND

This morning, at twenty to eight, the Foreign Assistant, Ms Anita Seydel, was preparing the High Commissioner's office, when a bullet shattered the glass wall in front of her. Some of the glass fragments struck her in the face and hair but she was not injured.

After informing the High Commissioner of the situation, the Kenyan Police was notified and they sent an investigating team. Standard Properties, was also informed and their Head of Security joined the police investigation team.

administrators

building,

Tme

of

the

The police confirmed that a bank robbery took place at Victoria Bank,
The
robbers apparently fired shots to scare off bystanders, and
from Lonrho House.

one block away

indicated that, for obvious reasons, the longer such a move is delayed, the scarcity and competition for appropriate accommodation will lead to the escalation of prices.

this

stage

At
although the
Kenyan Police would like to complete their investigation before confirming their assumption.

suspected,

no

foul play

is

10.

EINDE

it seems as if one of these bullets hit the office window
of the Head of Mission.
the Kenya Police will
investigate all angles of the incident.

However,

Standard Properties is currently finalizing arrangements to
have the broken window replaced.
They indicated that they
will also obtain quotations to replace all the Head of
Mission's windows with bullet proof glass.

SECURITY CONCERNS

6.

the

19971024,

addressed

location of

indicated in the High Commissioner's telex vnahk0682

As

our mission in Nairobi

dated

This matter was once

constitutes a serious security risk.

again

19980930,

where head office was requested to seriously consider the

moving

possibility

suitable

In response, the mission was requested to

accommodation.

prepare a detailed property market survey.

The mission has

already started preparing a survey and it will be forwarded
to head office on completion.

telex vnahk0480

Chancery

dated

more

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our

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to

of

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is

and

House

Lonhro

number

clarification,

For

situated within the
close vicinity of the Parliament building,
the Education
Department
buildings.

These buildings are potential targets during civil unrest,
for example the present teachers strike which has already
turned violent.

The head office of the Nation newspaper
which is the destination for many demonstrators,
is also
within one block from the mission, and is situated next to
the bank where this morning's robbery took place.

government

other

of

robbers

To further clarify the mission's concerns, two persons were
killed in another attempted bank robbery about one month
One of the victims was an innocent passer-by whose
ago.

The Counsellor

car the

Political and the SASS representative were both exposed to
situations where unknown persons attempted to enter their
As indicated in previous
cars at the exit of Lonrho House.

the economic situation appears to be worsening by
reports,

the

day

hence

be

expected.

attempted to

highjackd

increase

violent

could

crime

an

in

COMMENT

9.

but

this

incident

in earlier reports.

The mission would once again not like to over-state it's concerns case, raised to it's location, is an easy target for demonstrators or attempted suitable terrorism, draw In the mission's interaction attention to their cause. our with also attention investigating was

the building,

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