
Ref.: 031.1.-GL/HS

TO THE EMBASSY’S PERSONNEL

CONFIDENTIAL

I have been informed that a very important member of the IRA, who has been arrested in Switzerland, has formulated threats of acts of violence against third parties if not immediately released.

Although his threats are not directly aimed at us, certain precautions must be taken in order to minimize the risks of an aggression against the Embassy or any of its members.

Therefore, at the recommendation of the Diplomatic Protection Group of Scotland Yard, the following security measures will be enforced immediately and until further notice:

1. The entrance gate of the Embassy will remain closed, even during visiting hours.

2. Visitors will have to wait outside the building and are to be admitted into the chancery only when the person they wish to see is free to receive them.

3. The visitors’ handbags, attaché-cases, parcels, etc. will be searched at the time of their admission.

4. In the chancery, an inspection of the lavatories will be made every half hour; at the same time a search will be made to see that no package has been left on or under the seats in the reception hall. If a suspicious object is found, DON'T TOUCH IT, DON'T MOVE IT.

5. No visitor will be allowed to go unaccompanied in the building. At the end of his visit, he will also be led to the ground floor; before releasing the door leading from the staircase to the entrance hall, the person accompanying the visitor will ascertain that it is safe to do so.

6. The receptionist will not any longer use the two release buttons on the white entry phones. The gate and the connecting doors will only be opened through the means of buttons placed in the telephonist's office.
7. No parcel delivered by messenger should be accepted, unless for delivery to a specific person, in which case that person should be called down to the reception to receive it. Under no circumstances should callers be permitted to leave parcels for collection by staff members. If a parcel is addressed to the Embassy, Mr. Glauser should be called before the messenger is allowed to leave.

8. It will be advisable to remove, or, to cover in an adequate way, any Swiss emblem that members of the Embassy might display on their cars.

9. Those of you who travel to the Embassy by car should not always use the same route and should vary the time of their departure.

10. I should like to remind the personnel that all other security instructions issued in the past keep their full validity and should therefore be observed strictly.

Certain further measures to increase the security at the Embassy require the agreement of the federal authorities, and the necessary steps will be taken immediately in order to be able to implement them.

The security outside the Embassy building is well assured by the Special Branch of Scotland Yard, and if we give full attention to the above instructions, the risks of an attack will be very small indeed and no one should be unduly alarmed.

THE SWISS AMBASSADOR

(E. Thalmann)