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SECURITY
SPECIAL ISSUE

BARACK OBAMA VISITS KENYA



**KIDNAP
AND
RANSOM
TRENDS**

**FOREIGN &
COMMONWEALTH
OFFICE UPDATE**



Security Special

Dear Reader,

Welcome to the Q3 edition of Care Quarterly. As some of you noticed we never got round to sending out the Q2 edition, so please accept our sincere apologies and hope it's a welcome return!

This quarter it's all about security. Like it or not, living and working in East Africa carries a degree of risk and this edition is packed with content to make you think about the safety of you and your loved ones.

We hope you find the information useful.

For more information, email sales@jwseagon.com

Welcome to CARE QUARTERLY. We hope the issues we publish have been informative & entertaining. We value your feedback, do send us your comments through our contacts on the back.

CQ EDITORIAL TEAM

BARACK OBAMA TO VISIT KENYA FOR FIRST TIME AS PRESIDENT



As visitors to Kenya go, they don't come any more high-profile than the President of the USA. And while Mr Obama's visit to Kenya has captured the attention of the nation, the security operation that goes on behind the scenes takes months of meticulous planning.

Many of you will remember the fake sign language interpreter who stood just a few feet away from President Obama at Nelson Mandela's funeral in 2013. Well, he is one of the main reasons why this time round, the US Secret Service have decided to assume full control for all the President's security

arrangements when he arrives in Kenya.

A decision has been made on the President's location and organisers have settled on UN office in Gigiri, mainly because it is easier to secure. The UN complex is also a stone's throw away from the US Embassy, another of the majorly secure locations in Nairobi that houses US marines and a specialised FBI office.

Only recently, the US State Department issued a warning to all American citizens in Kenya that they could be turned into targets for terrorists and to remain vigilant at all times. The alert expires on the 30th July once the Summit ends.

A worrying trend

Kidnapping-for-ransom became a prominent criminal trend in 2009 with Nairobi as the hotspot. This spread between 2012 and 2014 as the crime proliferated in such areas as Kiambu, Muranga, and Kirinyaga. The rise in kidnapping in 2009 was effectively an extension of certain criminals' theft and robbery activities. Between 2010 and 2014, the rate of abductions levelled out, but remained well above pre-2009 levels. Deficiencies in law-enforcement, coupled with

stark socio-economic disparities among the population, continue to provide incentives for criminal gangs to target affluent residents for kidnapping. Perceived wealth and a long-term presence in the country are the two most salient risk factors for potential victims in Kenya. There have been isolated incidents of abductions of short-term foreign visitors (most recently a British tourist in January 2011). However, the vast majority of kidnapping victims in urban areas of Kenya are local nationals. Criminal gangs commonly abduct family

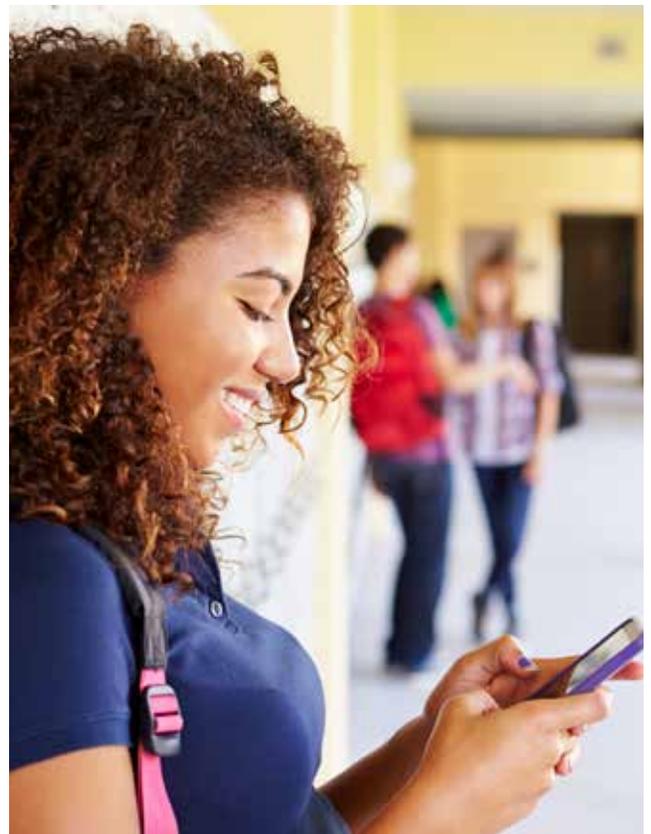
dependants, and the children of affluent businesspeople remain one of the most prominent target groups.

Short-term visitors to Kenya who are perceived as wealthy are the victims of other forms of crime, such as robbery and carjacking. They have not become the dominant target group of kidnappers, primarily because such gangs typically require a significant amount of time to organise their attack, and the logistics of their victim's captivity.

Source: Hiscox 2014

IT ALWAYS HELPS TO SEE THE FUNNY SIDE

When, as brokers, we were talking to a respected school in Kenya about the possibility of special risks cover, the Principal was enthusiastic about the value and security that insuring his pupils for kidnap and ransom brought the school. In his words, there were plenty of wealthy parents with children in his care and he didn't want to imagine the school not having anything in place to protect them, if the worst ever happened. We suggested that he might want to also apply a similar level of protection to his teachers, in case they were ever kidnapped. He thought about this for a few moments then, with the wisdom of many years as a senior educator he replied, "I don't think that will be necessary, they won't be targets. Who ever heard of a rich teacher?"



FOREIGN & COMMONWEALTH OFFICE (FCO) – A QUICK UPDATE

Anyone who's visited the FCO website recently will have seen some important updates. Most notably, it advises against all but essential travel to:

- areas within 60km of the Kenya-Somali border
- Garissa County
- the Eastleigh area of Nairobi
- Lamu County and those areas of Tana River County north of the Tana river itself
- within 15km of the coast from the Tana River down to, but not including, Watamu.



The encouraging news however is that this caution does not include Kenya's safari destinations in the national parks, reserves and wildlife conservancies; nor does it include the beach resorts of Mombasa, Kilifi, Watamu and Diani.

The FCO states that the threat from terrorism (including kidnapping) remains high, with the main threat coming from extremists linked to Al Shabaab - a militant group that has carried out attacks in Kenya in response to Kenya's military intervention in Somalia.

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