

National Story

Helen Clark's house tagged

8:48AM Sunday December 30, 2007

Prime Minister Helen Clark's home in Auckland's Mt Eden was tagged with graffiti in August – despite the house next door being rented by the Diplomatic Protection Squad (DPS).

DPS head Inspector Terry O'Neill said the incident, which prompted a review of the Prime Minister's security, was regrettable, the Sunday News newspaper reported.

It also reported that a dairy robber was able to hide in the property's back yard.

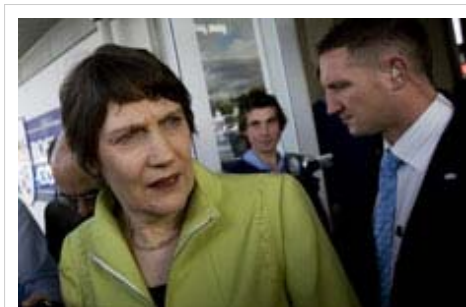
One neighbour – whose home was also tagged – told the newspaper he could not believe his home had been attacked when specialised police staff were in the neighbourhood watching the prime minister's home.

Miss Clark's security arrangements were also increased after a member of the Exclusive Brethren accosted her in Parliament before the last election.

A spokesman for Miss Clark revealed the incident after National accused the prime minister of hypocrisy, saying she had criticised opposition MPs for meeting members of the sect while she had done the same herself.

But Miss Clark's spokesman said at the time there had been no scheduled meetings and she had increased her security to stop them approaching her.

– NZPA



Helen Clark's house was hit by taggers in August, prompting a security review. Photo / Richard Robinson