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Melbourne Sun

# Summit 'watch' 24 SEP 1981 on blacks

ABORIGINAL activist Gary Foley said last night he had been the subject of a special CHOGM security watch.

He said his Melbourne office had been visited several times in the past fortnight by Victorian detectives seconded to the CHOGM security task force.

Mr Foley, from the Victorian Aboriginal Health Service, said that in Sydney two policemen recently asked his staff of their intentions during the CHOGM conference.

"They also asked if I had any assassinations planned," he said.

In Parliament yesterday, Labor Senator Keefe asked the Attorney-General, Senator Durack, if the surveillance activities were "part of the campaign by the Australian Government to prevent Aboriginals meeting with and talking to representatives of black African countries."

Senator Durack said he would refer the question to the Minister for Administrative Services, Mr Newman. Senator Keefe said: "No doubt I won't get a reply until CHOGM is over."

In his Melbourne office, Mr Foley said a "multitude of little incidents" had been plaguing his groups in both states.

"Our telephones and telex systems in Sydney have been going on the blink for days on end without any explanation from Telecom," he said.

"Last Friday two policemen came into our Melbourne office and refused to leave their names and phone numbers.

"I was singled out and asked what I would be doing at the conference — I told them nothing.

"I've stopped taking notice of them because there is nothing I can do about it."

Mr Foley said his group had arranged talks with several leaders of black countries, but declined to name them until they were confirmed.