

Access to Halton police headquarters restricted yesterday as precaution

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Executive assistant, told the *Champion* yesterday morning the MP was in lockdown in the caucus room and that she was safe.

Oakville MP Terence Young emailed his constituency office yesterday morning to say all MPs were safe but in lockdown.

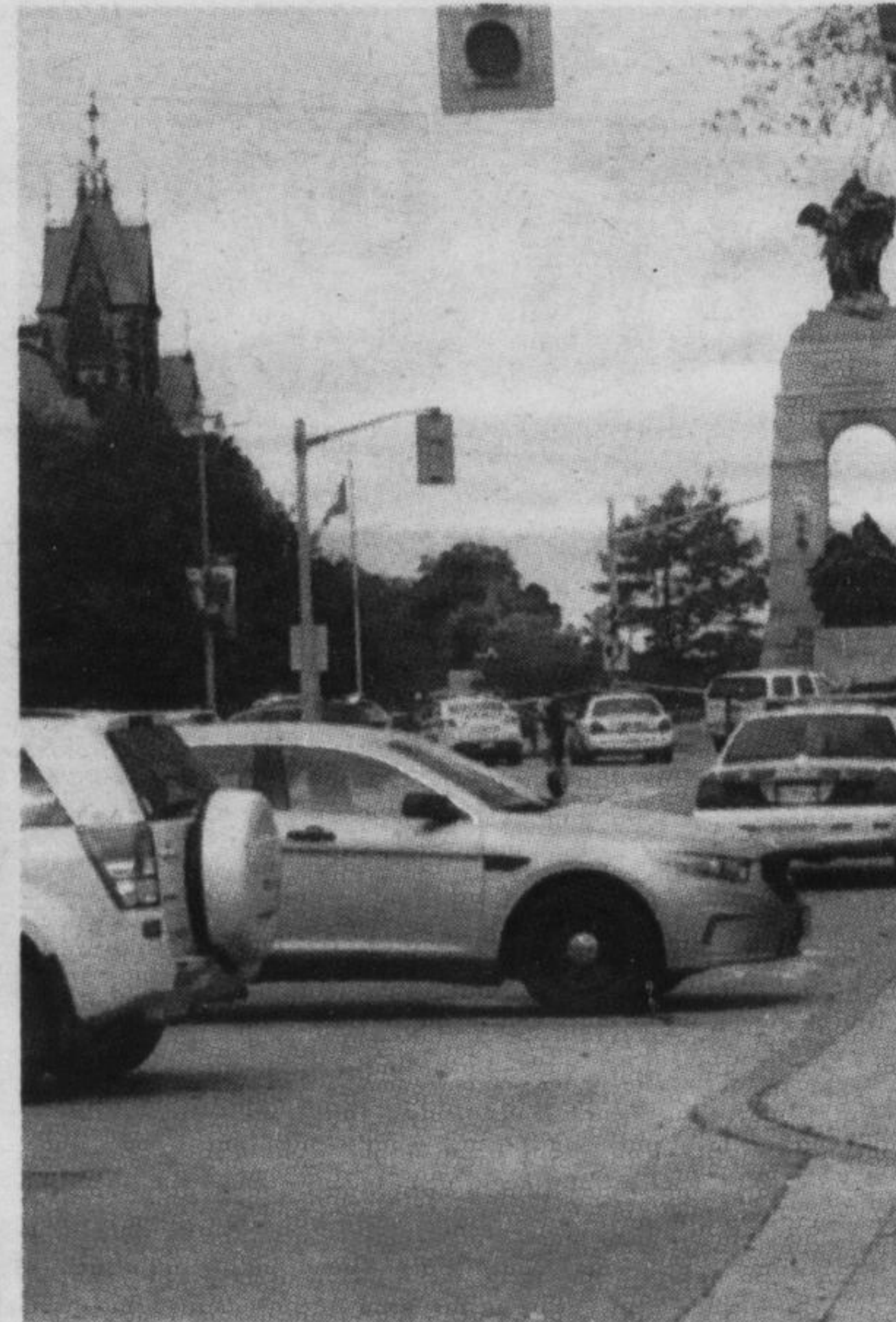
Responding to a text from the *Oakville Beaver* later in the day, Young wrote, "All parliamentarians are safe and secure. The shooter was shot dead by our sergeant-at-arms Kevin Vickers, a brave man. Our prayers are with

the soldier that was murdered and his family, and the security guard in hospital who was shot in the leg."

Young said police were in the process of securing the building and MPs were still being held in a secure location.

Burlington MP Mike Wallace was also safe and in lockdown, his constituency office reported to the *Burlington Post*.

The incident comes just two days after two Canadian soldiers were run over — and one



Police investigate the scene of the National War Memorial following yesterday's shooting. *Brier Dodge / Metroland Media Group*

of them killed — in Quebec by a man with jihadist sympathies.

Here in Halton, there are no imminent threats within the region in light of the tragic events in Ottawa, police said.

"Halton Regional Police are maintaining a certain degree of vigilance and are continuing with their set infrastructure that is already in place with our partners at various levels of government and other law agencies," said Sgt. Paul Davies, with headquarters operations.

Davies noted at this point there's no Halton connection to the shooters or victims.

As a precaution, there was restricted access yesterday at Halton police headquarters on Bronte Road, with an officer in a cruiser stationed outside.

The doors were locked, with visitors screened as they entered.

Davies said the same restricted access was being used at police stations across Halton.

Halton Region Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Jane MacCaskill said the Region hasn't invoked any official emergency response protocols, but that security is definitely heightened there.

The Regional building on Bronte Road in Oakville called in additional security personnel and instructed them to make more frequent rounds inside and outside the property. However, the main doors to the Regional building weren't locked, unlike the doors to police headquarters around the corner.

A police cruiser was parked near the Regional building entrance.

"We are always in a state of readiness when an event like this happens," MacCaskill said. "We are in contact regularly with the chief of (Halton) police and monitoring the media."

Yesterday afternoon, Halton police Chief Stephen Tanner spoke at a brief press conference at police headquarters. Several regional and municipal politicians were in attendance.

"I want to reassure the public that there is no imminent threat to public safety in Halton and the immediate area...(but) the public needs to be increasingly vigilant and not let suspicious activity go unnoticed or unreported," he said.

— With files from Tim Whitnell, Herb Garbutt and Rachael Williams, Metroland West Media Group

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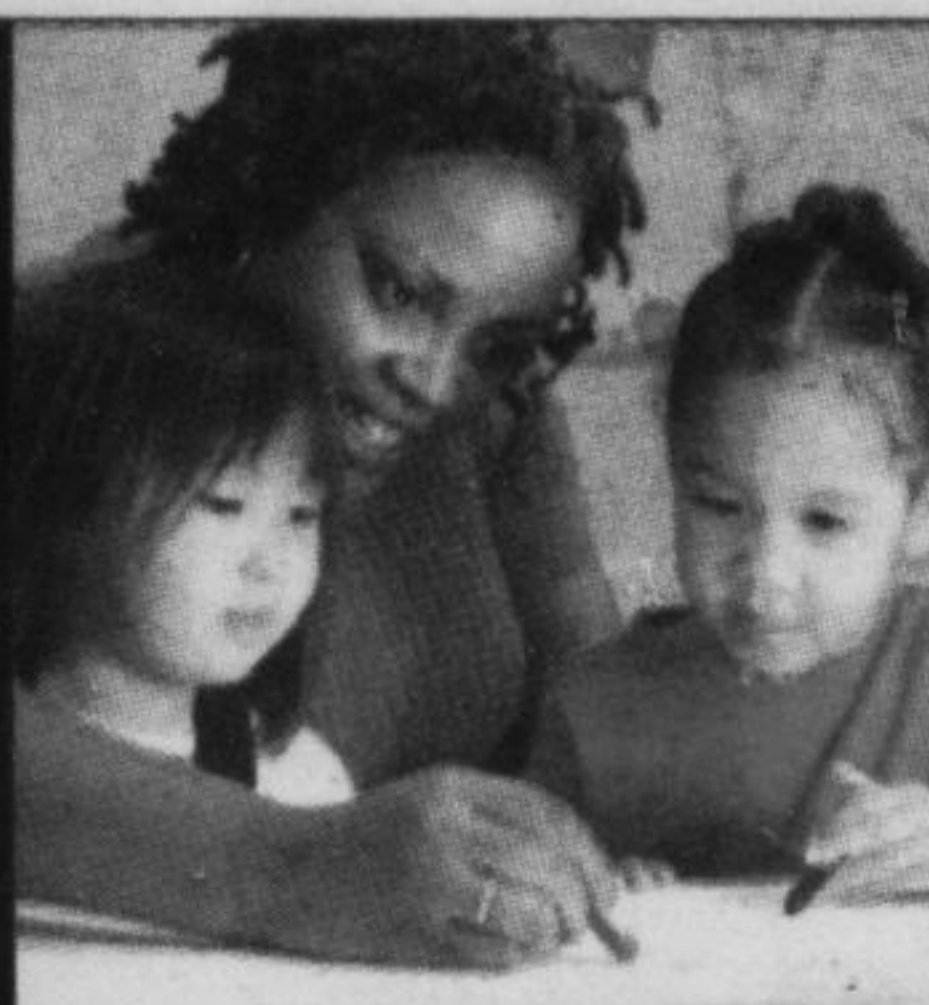
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Location: Milton Sports Centre
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Time: 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.



For more information contact:

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