

Dear Andrew,

We would like to bring this to your attention.

On Wednesday 28th January, 2009 a fire broke out in the Downtown branch of a leading supermarket chain known as Nakumatt.

The fire was apparently triggered by failure of the shop's generator switch-over circuit, when a power black-out occurred a little after 2:00pm.

Approximately 40 people died and several more were seriously injured in the incident and it is believed that more lives would have been saved if the shoppers had been enabled to find their way safely to the exits.

When we came across your product, our first thoughts were that Glowmark Arrows would have led and directed a lot more of those people to safety without need for electrical light that should have been powered from the failed generator backup.

We are greatly encouraged by the report from Tactical Imaging LLC that we have since downloaded from your Website. The report clearly explains the benefits of GlowMark in a fire evacuation situation as well as many other applications and as a result of this we are now discussing and negotiating installing your product with some major companies and organisations in Kenya.

We are currently engaged in talks and are having meetings with the UN at their head offices in Nairobi to register GlowMark with them.

When the registration is granted we will be looking to take orders of Glowmark Arrows from these and other UN organisations that include UNEP, UNON, UNICEF and WPR.

We are also in talks and negotiations with leading stores and supermarket chains, cinemas, theatres, sports stadiums, places of worship, conference centres, hotels estate management companies, securities and insurance companies, many of whom control procurement for these organisations in all populated public areas.

We are hoping to secure some big orders for GlowMark and to supply these organisations in the near future.

Please view the published News articles and photos of this terrible tragedy we hope this will portray the safety aspects of Glowmark products very clearly too many worldwide organisations.

Thank you and our best regards.

Take Note Limited Kenya

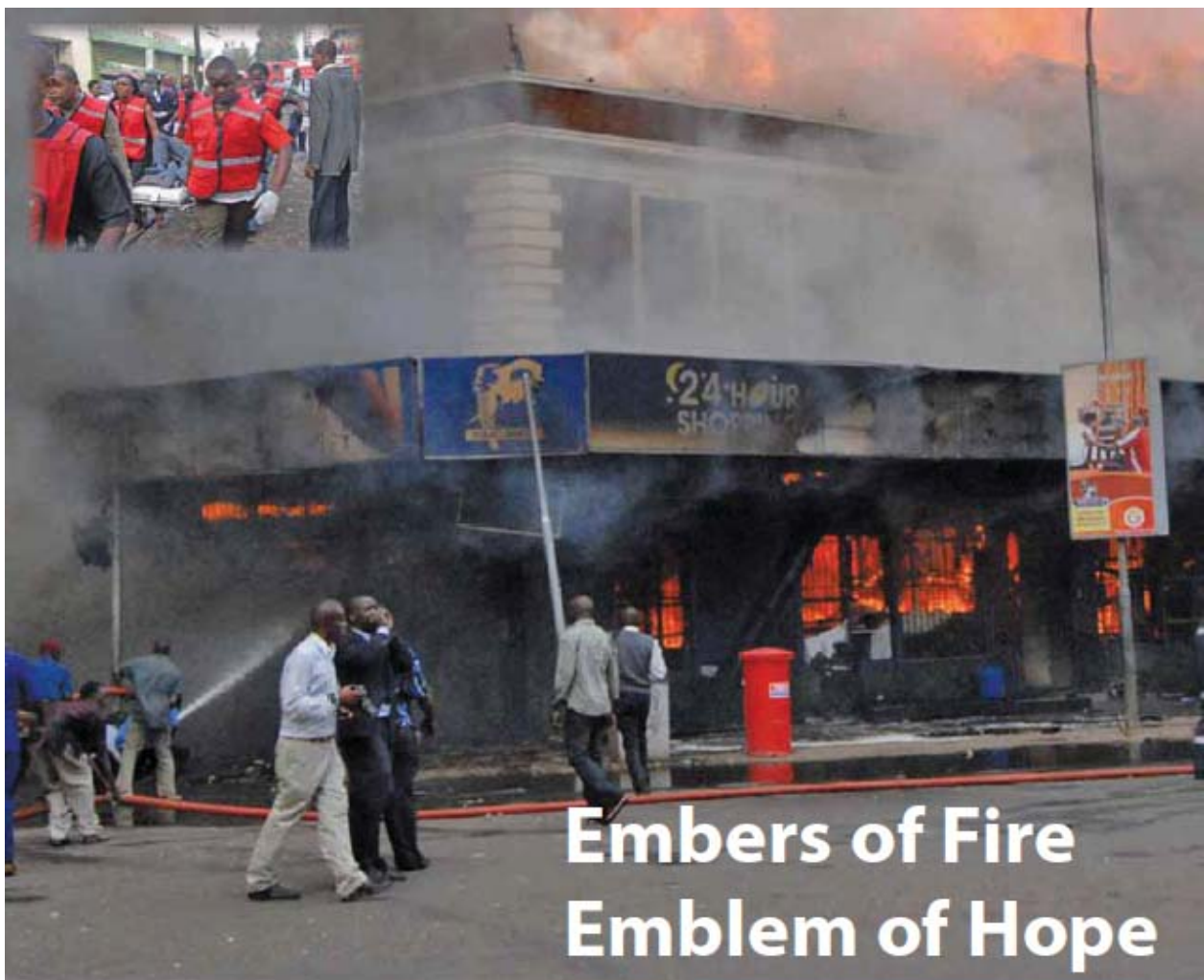
Wednesday, January 28, 2009

[NAIROBI NAKUMATT FIRE](#)



A fierce fire brought down a supermarket in Kenya's City-Nairobi. The over 4 hours long fire destroyed property worth millions of shillings in Nakumatt Downtown a prime branch of the leading Supermarket chains in Kenya.

Thousands of Nairobians watched in disbelief as the City Council fire-fighters ran out of water several times. The police later combined forces with G4s a security company in fighting the fire. The fire is believed to have been caused by an electric fault. Several other buildings near the supermarket also caught fire.





## Nakumatt Fire

By MICHAEL AYABEI

*KRC staff, Mike Ayabei, consoles a distraught relative of a victim of Nakumatt fire tragedy*

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2009 is a day that will linger in my mind for a long time. I had planned my day's activities with community members in Mathare, Nairobi. As we were about to start the second phase of the day's activities, I received a phone call from a Nairobi Branch volunteer.

"Mike, there has been a loud blast in the CBD, smoke is all over the streets," he exclaimed. He went on to say he did not know the exact location of the blast. I quickly assembled a disaster response team of about 24 volunteers and left Mathare community, hurrying to the Kenya Red Cross Headquarters in South C, wondering what the matter was.

The KRC land cruiser was literally flying along Mombasa road with sirens blaring, only to be caught up in the famous traffic jam. Fortunately, the response team was recognised as the ambulance weaved through the traffic jam towards the city centre. I followed closely in a private car after placing the Kenya Red Cross sticker on the car's bonnet. I also switched on the head lights, using whatever means possible, I raced behind the land cruiser. By this time, we had learnt that the Nakumatt Downtown supermarket in the city centre was on fire.

The DRT advance team from Mathare arrived at the Scene in less than 10 minutes and embarked on the Operation. The number of KRC respondents was 124 people, including staff from the Headquarters. There were volunteers from Laikipia, Machakos, Limuru, Nairobi, Karen-Langata and Thika branches.

Daniel Mutinda, the overall team leader, was in command, having arrived at the scene minutes earlier. He reported the situation, which I relayed to the Headquarters. On reaching Nakumatt Supermarket, I assumed command of the recovery operations. There was confusion.



*KRC personnel during recovery efforts at Nakumatt building*

I divided the DRT team into four groups, covering all corners of the building. Usually, the DRT team works in four major groups of between five to six members. Fortunately, the DRT members are trained in First Aid, Disaster Management and Fire Safety. These skills came in handy during the tragedy.

As the fire brigade teams fought the fire, the DRT team provided support in First Aid and logistics. The public expected much from the Kenya Red Cross team - perhaps a miracle of some kind. I remember hearing a telephone conversation that raised my eyebrows. The caller said, "Fire brigade *wako hapa, lakini sasa Red Cross wamefi ka*". (Fire Brigade is here, but Red Cross has arrived) – may be hopeful we could do something better to save the situation. The fire raged on, consuming the former busy supermarket from all corners.

After the fire was put out on the second day, the response teams started the hardest part of the operation - retrieval of bodies. Initial reports had indicated that the building was fully evacuated immediately after it caught fire. This was not the case, some people were trapped inside. Accompanied with a pathologist and forensic experts, the DRT team started digging through the rubbles searching for missing people. I led the team in retrieving five bodies from the site. Each time, I encouraged my team to face the task head on.

For seven days, we combed through the debris of the building for more bodies. At times we found victims. It was a thorough exercise. Morning till evening we received great support from the psychosocial support Teams who provided counselling and debriefing services to the team. It is sad that lives were lost. However, we were encouraged to have served humanity.



I was in Mathare slums with a group of Disaster Risk Reduction team carrying out fire safety activities. We received shocking news from our Disaster Risk Reduction Officer Mike Aiyabei, said he had been informed by a volunteer from the Nairobi Kenya Red Cross Branch that there was fire at Nakumatt Downtown, a supermarket in the city centre. We arrived at the scene of the fire at about 3pm. There was chaos all over as the supermarket was consumed by flames with the public watched in disbelief. Controlling the crowd was stressful as everybody wanted to move as close as possible and see for themselves.

We were prepared psychologically to handle the job a head. This would involve rummaging through the rubbles in Search of bodies. I camped at the scene of the fire for two days, consoling families that had lost their loved ones as we waited for fire to be put out completely.

Unfortunately, this was not to be until the second day. The Kenya Red Cross tracing team was on the ground. The Situation was tense and the waiting was painful. The sight of relatives of the victims waiting was almost unbearable.

## Fire Tragedies



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Thank you for your co operation.



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