

## **Report of serious violations of the protection, security and safety of the Holy See Missions and Representatives**

1. On 3 January 2008, in Caracas, **Venezuela**, a grenade launched from the road was found unexploded before the entrance of the Apostolic Nunciature. The device was later removed to the care of the security division of the National Police.

On 14 February 2008, at 4:10 a.m., a bomb exploded in front of the metal gate, along the surrounding wall of the Pontifical Representation, causing damage to the gate and shattering some windows on the front of the building.

Despite the Notes of protest, the Ministry of External Affairs did not manifest any reaction. Only after the explosion of 14 February, the Director General of Protocol contacted the Apostolic Nuncio to inform that the Minister of the Interior and Justice was asked to begin an investigation into the facts. With a communication of 5 March 2008, the Ambassador of Venezuela to the Holy See affirmed that the investigation ascertained that the organizers of the bomb attack of 14 February have no relation with the Government and with President H. Chávez.

2. On 22 April 2008, during the clash among governmental troops of **Burundi** and rebels of the National Liberation Force (FNL), a mortar shell hit the building of the Pontifical Representation, fortunately only causing material damage.