

Sword attack target fearful of assailant

by UPI

GLOUCESTER, England -- A former member of the British Parliament is concerned that a man who once attacked him with a samurai sword may soon live near him, a source says.

Former Member of Parliament Nigel Jones, an unidentified source said, is set to meet Justice Secretary Jack Straw regarding where Robert Ashman is considering living after being released from prison, The Daily Telegraph said Thursday.

Ashman, 58, was released from a medium-security unit last July after being deemed safe for release by psychiatrists.

Ashman admitted to killing 39-year-old researcher Andrew Pennington in January 2000 during an attempted attack on Jones with a samurai sword.

Pennington was killed protecting Jones, 60, who had been serving as a parliamentary representative for Cheltenham.

The Daily Telegraph said since being released, Ashman is reportedly considering relocating to the nearby city of Gloucester, prompting Jones' reported meeting with Straw.

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