



ALPA SECURITY ALERT

2012-01

SUBJECT: U.S. Embassy in Israel Issues Travel Warnings

BACKGROUND:

As you are aware, missile fire and airstrikes have occurred in Israel and Gaza over the past few days. As a result, the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv, Israel has issued several [travel warnings](#) regarding risks associated with travel to Israel, the West Bank, and the Gaza Strip. The Department of State has also warned U.S. citizens to avoid all travel to the Gaza Strip. The Canadian government has issued similar warnings.

Airlines are responsible, per statutes and regulations, for the safety and security of flight crews while performing duties on behalf of their employers. ALPA's MEC Security Chairs/ Coordinators interface with corporate security departments on many issues, such as travel security, to help their respective companies safeguard their flight crews.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Heed the State Department's warnings related to the Gaza Strip and exercise caution within Israel and the West Bank, if traveling there. Stay current with communications from your airlines, with media coverage of local events, and be aware of your surroundings at all times.
- Identify and seek guidance from your ALPA MEC security chair/coordinator with any questions or concerns.
- Know how to contact your company's corporate security office, operations control center and the local station manager. Make certain you have a reliable way of communicating with them in emergency circumstances. Know how to maintain contact with fellow crewmembers.
- Blend into your surroundings. Avoid wearing or displaying items associated with the U.S. or Canada in order to lessen chances for confrontation.
- Travel in groups. Do not frequent service-provider establishments (e.g., food, beverage, etc.) known to attract U.S. or Canadian citizens or other foreign national tourists.
- Avoid large gatherings of people and demonstrations, and exercise caution if you should inadvertently find yourself near one. Demonstrations that are intended to be peaceful can quickly turn confrontational and escalate into violence.
- Log into the members-only portion of the ALPA website and consult ALPA's on-line [International Directory](#) for additional U.S. Embassy and Consulate contact information.
- Plan your travels domestically and abroad using the *World Watch* tool at www.alpa.org.

Please contact the ALPA Engineering & Air Safety Department at 800-424-2470 with any questions.

Captain Fred Eissler
Aviation Security Chair