

problem and not part of the family can ease your mind tremendously. The Counsellors maintain contact with many organizations who can help resolve problems.

In the absence of suitable alternatives, your Head of Mission is authorized to permit the use of Departmental Telex facilities in case of an emergency. While death and illness in the family are obvious examples, consideration may be extended to urgent financial and other matters that may develop as a direct result of a posting.

Maintaining regular contact with elderly parents. Sending regular news about the family in the form of letters, cards, telephone calls, recorded audio or video cassettes is essential in bridging the distances between families overseas and elderly parents.

Sources of Information and Resources on the Elderly

The Foreign Service Community Association (FSCA)

National Advisory Council on Aging
Room 340, Brooke Claxton Bldg.
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0K9

Department of Veterans Affairs, Charlottetown, P.E.I.

Office of the Minister of State for Seniors
473 Albert St., 3rd Floor,
Trebla Building
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0K9

International Social Services
55 Parkdale Ave.,
Ottawa, Ontario K1Y 1E5

For books refer to the Selected Bibliography in this Handbook. (Many of these publications are available in The Posting Centre (ABMH).)

Directories of services for the elderly are available from any local Councils on Aging or Senior Citizens Councils.

5.10 Death Abroad

Procedures

The following section looks at another topic that most of us don't like to think about, but unfortunately death abroad can, and has, occurred. It is often difficult to think clearly under these circumstances and in order to be prepared in the event of a death while abroad please read over the following procedures.

1. Notify the embassy or consulate immediately.
2. Have the Certificate of Death translated into English/French and retain several certified copies which will be required for application of death benefit, superannuation, insurance benefits etc.
3. Decide whether or not to have a funeral/memorial service at the mission. If yes, check on proper social customs and requirements for the host country.
4. Pay and Allowances. In the event of death of an employee, payment consists of the balance of salary and allowances for the month of death, payment for unused annual and foreign service leave, and severance pay of one week of salary for each year of continuous service up to a