



No. 60

March 13, 1991

MIDDLE EAST TRAVEL ADVICE FOR CANADIANS

External Affairs and International Trade Canada has revised its recommendations for Canadians planning travel to the Middle East and North Africa.

Canadians are advised not to travel to Iraq and are reminded that our Baghdad embassy is not operating at present. Given the current situation in Kuwait, Canadians are advised to defer any travel there until conditions improve.

Canadians with essential business in Bahrain, Qatar, Algeria, and the Eastern Province and Central Region of Saudi Arabia (including Riyadh) may now proceed with their plans. Tourists should continue to defer travel to those areas until final ceasefire arrangements are in place. Canadians planning travel to Syria, Jordan, Eastern Turkey, Israel and the Israeli-occupied territories may now proceed with their arrangements.

As conditions may still be unsettled, all travellers to the region are advised to plan carefully, exercise caution and register with the nearest Canadian embassy on arrival.

External Affairs and International Trade Canada has cancelled its special consular telephone line established for the Gulf crisis. Canadians seeking travel advice on all destinations, including the Middle East, may call the Department's Consular Operations Division at (613) 996-4376.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

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