



No. 27

February 1, 1991

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL AND THE GULF WAR

External Affairs and International Trade Canada today issued a reminder to Canadian citizens living in or visiting areas affected by the war in the Gulf. This advice reflects the Department's latest assessment of evolving conditions in the Middle East and other regions, and is issued to provide Canadians with the best possible information to help them decide on their travel or departure plans.

The Department reiterates previous travel warnings and wishes to alert Canadians to repeated Iraqi threats to use chemical warfare in the present hostilities. While Canada does not have gas masks that fit children, the Canadian adult population in the Eastern Province and Central Region of Saudi Arabia has been provided with masks. Therefore, Canada reminds its citizens that they should seriously consider the departure of dependants and non-essential persons from the area. Canadians normally resident in, or contemplating business travel to, the area are strongly advised to delay their travel plans.

The attached annex summarizes the travel advice Canada has been issuing to its nationals in the Middle East and North Africa, as well as in Mauritania, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

Gulf Desk
Media Relations Office
External Affairs and International Trade Canada
(613) 992-6346

February 1, 1991

ADVICE TO CANADIANS

AFGHANISTAN, SOMALIA

Canadians should not attempt to visit Afghanistan or Somalia. Any remaining Canadians should consider departing when and if it is safe to do so.

ALGERIA

Canadian tourists, business and other travellers should defer their travel. Dependants and non-essential personnel should seriously consider departing without delay. Visiting and resident Canadians who plan to leave should do so without delay.

BAHRAIN

Canadian tourists, business and other travellers should defer their travel. Dependants and non-essential personnel should seriously consider departing without delay. Visiting and resident Canadians who plan to leave should do so without delay.

IRAQ

Canadians should not attempt to visit Iraq. Any remaining Canadians should consider departing, when and if it is safe to do so.

ISRAEL AND THE ISRAELI-OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

Canadian tourists, business and other travellers should defer their travel. Dependants and non-essential personnel should seriously consider departing. Visiting and resident Canadians who plan to leave should do so without delay.

JORDAN

Canadian tourists, business and other travellers should defer their travel. Dependants and non-essential personnel should seriously consider departing. Visiting and resident Canadians who plan to leave should do so without delay.

KUWAIT

Canadians should not attempt to visit Kuwait. When possible, any remaining Canadians should consider departing without delay.

LEBANON

Canadian tourists, business and other travellers should defer their travel. All Canadians should consider leaving.

QATAR

Canadian tourists, business and other travellers should defer their travel. Dependants and non-essential personnel should seriously consider departing without delay. Visiting and resident Canadians who plan to leave should do so without delay.

SAUDI ARABIA (Eastern Province and Central Region, including Riyadh)

Canadian tourists, business and other travellers should defer their travel. Dependants and non-essential personnel should seriously consider departing without delay. Visiting and resident Canadians who plan to leave should do so without delay.

SUDAN

Canadian tourists, business and other travellers should defer their travel. Dependants and non-essential personnel should consider the possibility of departing. Visitors and residents of Khartoum whose presence is not essential should consider departing.

SYRIA

Canadian tourists, business and other travellers should defer their travel. Dependants and non-essential personnel should seriously consider departing without delay. Visiting and resident Canadians who plan to leave should do so without delay.

TURKEY (Eastern Border Region)

Canadian tourists, business and other travellers should defer their travel to this region. Dependants and non-essential personnel in this region should seriously consider leaving the area without delay. Visiting and resident Canadians who plan to withdraw from the Eastern Border Region should do so without delay.

YEMEN

Canadian tourists, business and other travellers should defer their travel. Dependants and non-essential personnel should seriously consider departing without delay. Visiting and resident Canadians who plan to leave should do so without delay.

BANGLADESH, EGYPT, IRAN, LIBYA, MAURITANIA, MOROCCO, OMAN, PAKISTAN, SAUDI ARABIA (Western Region), TUNISIA AND THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Residents and visitors are advised to exercise additional caution and to register and keep in close contact with the Canadian Embassy.