



USAID | WEST BANK/GAZA

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

June 28, 2006
REF: 2006-WBG-22

TO: All USAID/West Bank and Gaza Contractors, Grantees and Recipients

SUBJECT: WARDEN MESSAGE - June 28, 2006

The U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem urges American citizens to defer all travel to the West Bank and the Gaza Strip in light of increased instability in those areas. American citizens in the Gaza Strip should depart immediately.

The June 27 Israeli incursion into the Gaza Strip brings with it a strong possibility of large public demonstrations, which may turn violent and anti-American in nature. As a reminder, even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and possibly escalate into violence. American citizens are therefore urged to avoid the areas of demonstrations, if possible, and to exercise caution if within the vicinity of any demonstrations.

Violence between the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) and militant groups based in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank can flare up without notice. There is also the potential for kidnappings, including of foreign nationals, and fighting between various armed factions.

For the latest security information, Americans should regularly monitor the Department's web site at <http://travel.state.gov>, where the current Worldwide Caution Public Announcement, Travel Warnings and Public Announcements can be found. Up-to-date information on security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll free in the U.S., or, for callers outside the U.S. and Canada, regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays.)

Americans who remain in West Bank and the Gaza Strip are strongly encouraged to register with the Consular Section of the U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem through the State Department's travel registration website, <https://travelregistration.state.gov>. U.S. citizens who require emergency services may telephone the Consulate General in Jerusalem at (972) (2) 622-7250.

Sincerely,

Dale Lewis
Contracting Officer
USAID/West Bank and Gaza

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