

Department of State

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post office nearest the place of the accident or to the one best-qualified to reforward the mail. If the aircraft personnel are unable to do this, the local post office concerned shall make every effort, without delay, to take delivery of the mail and to forward it to the offices of designation by the most rapid means, after determining the condition of the correspondence and reconditioning it if damaged. Most post offices are familiar with these provisions, but if in any case the mail is not being properly cared for, the local Foreign Service post should bring the proper procedure to the attention of the nearest post office.

(b) *Diplomatic pouches.* Immediately upon arriving at the scene of the accident, the Foreign Service representative should ascertain whether the aircraft was carrying a courier or diplomatic pouches. If a courier is found to be aboard, the same personal arrangements should be made for him as are made for other passengers (see §§102.10 to 102.13). An immediate search should also be made for whatever diplomatic pouches the courier may have been carrying and for any pouches that may have been carried as regular cargo. Usually, the cargo manifest will list diplomatic pouches carried as air freight or cargo. The passenger manifest normally will list the total number of pieces of luggage or pouches checked by a courier (if one is aboard), but since he usually carries his pouches with him into the cabin of the plane, the pouch invoices on his person or in his briefcase will offer positive proof of the number of pouches he had in his custody. If any are found, they should be cleared through appropriate government officials of the country and taken to the nearest United States Foreign Service office to await disposition instructions. If it is learned that the postal authorities have already recovered United States diplomatic pouches that may have been involved, these pouches should be obtained from the postal authorities and taken to the nearest United States Foreign Service office to await disposition instructions. A telegraphic message should be dispatched to the Department and to the regional courier office having jurisdiction over that area, giving a descrip-

tion of the pouches recovered. This description should include the office of addressor and addressee and the classification indicator (C, A, or S). The Department and the regional courier office will coordinate instructions to the office for the disposition of these pouches.

(c) *Baggage, personal effects and cargo.* The Foreign Service representative should request the local authorities to arrange for the security storage and protection of such baggage, personal effects and cargo as is recoverable from the aircraft until the property can be released to its owners by local customs and accident investigating authorities, or by the courts. When released, the personal effects of United States citizens, who died in the accident, should be taken into possession and disposed of by the local Foreign Service post in accordance with the procedure prescribed in §§72.15 to 72.55 of this chapter.

§ 102.15 Protection and preservation of wreckage.

In so far as local law permits, the Foreign Service representative should see that arrangements are made (by the airline representative with the local authorities, if a scheduled carrier is involved) for the protection of the wrecked aircraft and its property contents against further damage, pilferage, and access by unauthorized persons, until the arrival of the accident investigation personnel. The prior removal of any of the wreckage or the contents of the aircraft should be prevented unless such action is necessitated by very compelling reasons, such as the need for treating the injured or for removing bodies, or when the wreckage constitutes a public hazard. When under the latter conditions the wreckage and contents of the aircraft must be moved or disturbed in any way, if possible, a record should be made or photographs taken showing the position and condition of the wreckage prior to disturbance. In the case of a private aircraft or non-scheduled carrier, protection should be arranged for the wrecked aircraft and its contents pending the receipt of information from the Department as to whether the Civil Aeronautics Board

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will investigate the case, and until final disposition is made of the property. If the owner of a private aircraft is killed in the wreck and is a United States citizen, the aircraft constitutes part of his personal estate and should be disposed of in accordance with the provisions of §§ 72.15 to 72.55 of this chapter. For rules governing the payment of expenses in connection with the protection and preservation of wrecked United States aircraft, see § 102.11.

§ 102.16 Records and reports in connection with investigation.

(a) *Records.* The Foreign Service representative should maintain a record of the various transactions taking place prior to the arrival of airline, Civil Aeronautics Board and Civil Aeronautics Administration representatives. This record should include all pertinent details with respect to the disposition of persons and property, obligations assumed, arrangements made, et cetera, and should also include any statements made by witnesses.

(b) *Reports.* Reports should be submitted to the Department for its information and the information of aviation authorities and other interested parties in the United States regarding the progress of any investigation which is held and its final outcome when known.

FOREIGN AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS INVOLVING UNITED STATES PERSONS OR PROPERTY

§ 102.17 Reports on accident.

When an accident occurs to a foreign aircraft in the district of a Foreign Service post and United States citizens or property are involved, the local Foreign Service post shall report the disaster fully to the Department and to the supervisory mission (or the supervisory consular office where there is no mission).

§ 102.18 Protection of United States citizens involved.

The local Foreign Service post shall follow substantially the procedures prescribed in §§ 102.11 to 102.13 in protecting United States citizens (whether

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alive or dead) involved in a foreign aircraft accident.

§ 102.19 Protection of United States property.

The local Foreign Service office shall follow substantially the procedures set forth in §§ 102.11 and 102.14 in protecting United States mail and baggage, personal effects and cargo belonging to United States citizens.

Subpart B—Recommendations to the President Under Section 801 of the Federal Aviation Act of 1958

AUTHORITY: Sec. 4, Act of May 26, 1949, as amended (63 Stat. 111; 22 U.S.C. 2658); E.O. 11920 (June 11, 1976, 41 FR 23665).

SOURCE: 41 FR 31548, July 29, 1976, unless otherwise noted.

§ 102.21 Purpose.

The purpose of this subpart is to set forth procedures for the receipt by the Department of State of comments from private parties on possible recommendations by the Department to the President on decisions of the Civil Aeronautics Board submitted for the President's approval under section 801 of the Federal Aviation Act of 1958, which relates to overseas and international air transportation.

§ 102.22 [Reserved]

§ 102.23 Applicability.

(a) This subpart applies to all communications between private parties and officials or employees of the Department of State, including those stationed abroad, on matters set forth in § 102.21 of this subpart.

(b) This subpart applies, with respect to any particular proceeding before the Civil Aeronautics Board, from the time that the Board's decision has been submitted to the President for consideration until the President has issued a final decision with respect to that proceeding.

§ 102.24 [Reserved]

§ 102.25 Submission of comments.

(a) All communications by private parties with Departmental officials or