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MSGID/GENADMIN/HQ USNORTHCOM//

SUBJ//HQ USNORTHCOM FORCE PROTECTION DIRECTIVE 12-087 (MEXICO TRAVEL PROHIBITIONS)//

REF/A/MESSAGE/TRAVEL WARNING MEXICO/SECSTATE WASHDC/08 FEB 2012//

REF/B/FCG/HTTPS://WWW.FCG.PENTAGON.MIL/FCG.CFM//

REF/C/MESSAGE/HQ USNORTHCOM FP DIRECTIVE 11-298 (MEXICO TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS)/252100Z OCT 11// REF/D/MESSAGE/USNORTHCOM FORCE PROTECTION MESSAGE 11-314A (AOR BASELINE FPCON)/101755Z NOV 11//

REF/E/MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT AMERICAN EMBASSY MEXICO -

USNORTHCOM/29 SEP 2003// REF/F/MESSAGE/USNORTHCOM TRAVEL ADVISORY 11-031 (GUERRERO STATE)/311900Z JAN 11

NARR/REF A IS A DEPARTMENT OF STATE MEXICO TRAVEL WARNING. REF B IS THE FOREIGN CLEARANCE MANUAL/DOD ELECTRONIC FOREIGN CLEARANCE GUIDE. REF C IS CDRUSNORTHCOM TRAVEL DIRECTIVE AND RESTRICTIONS FOR MEXICO. REF D IS THE CURRENT USNORTHCOM AOR BASELINE FPCON MESSAGE. REF E MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN COMMANDER, U.S. NORTHERN COMMAND AND CHIEF OF MISSION, AMERICAN EMBASSY, MEXICO FOR SECURITY AND FORCE PROTECTION OF DOD ELEMENTS AND PERSONNEL IN MEXICO. REF F IS USNORTHCOM RECOMMENDATION TO DEFER TRAVEL TO GUERRERO.

1. (U) THIS MESSAGE SUPERSEDES AND RESCINDS REF C AND REF F AND SERVES AS THE NEW COMMANDER USNORTHCOM TRAVEL DIRECTIVE FOR MEXICO. THIS DIRECTIVE APPLIES TO ALL DOD PERSONNEL OVER WHICH COMMANDER USNORTHCOM HAS FORCE PROTECTION RESPONSIBILITY IAW THE UNIFIED COMMAND PLAN (UCP) AND IS VALID UNTIL RESCINDED OR SUPERSEDED.

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2. (U) TRAVEL WARNING, REF A, OUTLINES THE SECURITY SITUATION IN MEXICO, HIGHLIGHTS THE RISKS INVOLVED WITH TRAVEL, ADVISES THE PUBLIC OF ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS ON THE TRAVEL OF U.S. GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL, AND IDENTIFIES AREAS TO AVOID OR WHERE TO DEFER TRAVEL. THE FULL TEXT OF THE TRAVEL WARNING, AS WELL AS OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION, CAN BE FOUND AT [HTTP://TRAVEL.STATE.GOV/TRAVEL/CIS_PA_TW/TW/TW_5665.HTML](http://TRAVEL.STATE.GOV/TRAVEL/CIS_PA_TW/TW/TW_5665.HTML) (ALL LOWER CASE). THIS STATE DEPARTMENT PAGE SHOULD BE REVIEWED BY ALL DOD PERSONNEL CONSIDERING TRAVEL ANYWHERE IN MEXICO.

3. (U) THREAT LEVELS AND FORCE PROTECTION CONDITIONS.

3.A. (U) DIA ASSESSES THE TERRORISM THREAT LEVEL IN MEXICO AS LOW.

3.B. (U) THE OVERALL CRIMINAL THREAT LEVEL FOR MEXICO IS ASSESSED AS CRITICAL BY US DEPARTMENT OF STATE; HOWEVER, THE THREAT MAY VARY FROM REGION TO REGION.

3.C. (U) THE FPCON BASELINE FOR MEXICO IS FPCON BRAVO.

4. (U) COMMANDER USNORTHCOM DIRECTS THAT ALL ROUTINE NON-OFFICIAL TRAVEL (LEAVE AND PASS) IS PROHIBITED TO THE STATES OF MICHOACAN, TAMAULIPAS, CHIHUAHUA, SINALOA, DURANGO, COAHUILA, NUEVO LEON, SAN LUIS POTOSI, JALISCO, ZACATECAS AND SONORA. OFFICIAL DOD TRAVEL TO THESE STATES IS LIMITED TO MISSION ESSENTIAL TRAVEL ONLY.

4.A. (U) APPLICABILITY. THIS TRAVEL DIRECTIVE APPLIES TO ALL ACTIVE COMPONENT PERSONNEL AND READY RESERVE PERSONNEL OF THE RESERVE COMPONENTS (NOT TO INCLUDE MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL GUARD). IT ALSO APPLIES TO DOD CIVILIANS, DOD DEPENDANTS, ALL OTHER MEMBERS OF THE RESERVE AND NATIONAL GUARD (WHEN ORGANIZED UNDER TITLE 10 OF UNITED STATES CODE), AND DOD CONTRACTORS (AS LONG AS IT DOES NOT VIOLATE ANY TERMS OF THE CONTRACT) WHEN TRAVELING IN AN OFFICIAL CAPACITY. DOD CIVILIANS, DOD DEPENDANTS, OTHER MEMBERS OF THE RESERVE COMPONENTS, AND DOD CONTRACTORS TRAVELING FOR NON-OFFICIAL PURPOSES ARE URGED TO ABIDE BY ALL TRAVEL PROHIBITIONS AND ADVISORIES. PER ANNEX A OF REF E, THIS DIRECTIVE DOES NOT APPLY TO DOD PERSONNEL UNDER THE FORCE PROTECTION RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CHIEF OF MISSION.

4.B. (U) OFFICIAL TRAVEL. TRAVEL FOR MISSION ESSENTIAL PURPOSES MAY BE APPROVED TO THE TRAVEL PROHIBITED AREAS CONSISTENT WITH THE TRAVEL APPROVAL PROCESS OF THE SERVICE COMPONENTS, DEFENSE AGENCIES AND DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES. IAW REF B, COUNTRY AND THEATER CLEARANCE IS REQUIRED FOR ALL OFFICIAL TRAVEL TO MEXICO. THE NAME AND GRADE OF THE APPROVING AUTHORITY AND JUSTIFICATION FOR TRAVEL SHALL BE ENTERED IN THE "COUNTRY REQUIRED INFORMATION" FIELD IN THE "ITINERARY" TAB IN THE AIRCRAFT AND PERSONNEL AUTOMATED CLEARANCE SYSTEM (APACS) CLEARANCE REQUEST. DISAPPROVAL OR ABSENCE OF APPROVAL BY ANY CLEARANCE-GRANTING AUTHORITY CONSTITUTES DENIAL OF AUTHORITY TO ENTER THE PROHIBITED AREAS. LEAD TIME FOR OFFICIAL PERSONNEL CLEARANCE REQUESTS IS 14 DAYS.

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4.C. (U) NON-OFFICIAL TRAVEL EMERGENCY PERSONAL TRAVEL (LEAVE/PASS) FOR NON-OFFICIAL PURPOSES MAY BE APPROVED TO THE TRAVEL PROHIBITED AREAS. PERSONAL TRAVEL (LEAVE/PASS) FOR LEISURE OR VACATION TRAVEL TO PROHIBITED STATES, INCLUDING RESORTS, IS NOT CONSIDERED EMERGENCY TRAVEL, AND WILL NOT BE APPROVED. THE SERVICE COMPONENTS, DEFENSE AGENCIES AND DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES WILL DISSEMINATE THE REQUIREMENTS IN THIS MESSAGE AND DEVELOP A PROCESS TO ENSURE TRAVELERS ARE IN COMPLIANCE PRIOR TO SUBMISSION OF THE TRAVEL REQUEST.

4.C.1. (U) EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, THEATER AND COUNTRY CLEARANCE IS REQUIRED FOR ALL ACTIVE-DUTY MILITARY FOR EMERGENCY PERSONAL TRAVEL (LEAVE/PASS) INTO PROHIBITED AREAS OF MEXICO. EACH REQUEST TO A PROHIBITED AREA WILL BE REVIEWED AND WEIGHED ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS BY THE COUNTRY TEAM. DO NOT ASSUME THEATER OR COUNTRY CLEARANCE. DISAPPROVAL OR ABSENCE OF APPROVAL FROM ANY CLEARANCE AUTHORITY CONSTITUTES DENIAL OF AUTHORITY TO ENTER MEXICO.

4.C.2. (U) ROUTINE PERSONAL TRAVEL (LEAVE/PASS) ON CRUISE SHIPS THAT VISIT PORTS IN PROHIBITED STATES IS AUTHORIZED AND DOES NOT REQUIRE THEATER OR COUNTRY CLEARANCE. HOWEVER, TRAVELERS MUST REMAIN ONBOARD DURING PORTS OF CALL.

4.C.3. (U) SUMMARY OF INFORMATION REQUIRED IN APACS. A DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY TRAVEL SHALL BE ENTERED IN THE "PURPOSE OF TRAVEL" FIELD IN THE MAIN TAB IN APACS. THE ITINERARY, MODE OF TRAVEL, LEAVE DESTINATION, BILLETING LOCATION, NAME AND RELATIONSHIP OF PERSON TO BE VISITED, TELEPHONE NUMBER OF PERSON TO BE VISITED, NAME/RANK OF APPROVING OFFICIAL AND AT/FP LEVEL I TRAINING DATE (MUST BE WITHIN ONE YEAR) SHALL BE ENTERED IN "COUNTRY REQUIRED INFORMATION" FIELD IN THE "ITINERARY" TAB IN APACS.

4.C.4. (U) PROCEDURES FOR OBTAINING COUNTRY CLEARANCE (PERSONAL/NON-OFFICIAL TRAVEL TO PROHIBITED STATES).

4.C.4.A. (U) SUBMIT APACS REQUEST. TRAVELERS AND THEIR UNITS WILL DETERMINE IF THE STATE TO BE VISITED IS A RESTRICTED STATE.

4.C.4.B. (U) CONTACT THE AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY OPSCO IF AFTER HOURS, WEEKENDS OR HOLIDAY.

4.C.4.B.1. (U) PRIMARY MEANS OF CONTACT - SEND EMAIL TO: CAMPID@STATE.GOV WITH EMERGENCY LEAVE REQUEST IN THE SUBJECT LINE.

4.C.4.B.2. (U) IF NO RESPONSE TO EMAIL AFTER 30 MINUTES CONTACT OPSCO (JOHN CAMP) AT:

4.C.4.B.2.A. (U/FOUO) 011-52-55-5589-7892 (HOME) 4.C.4.B.2.B. (U/FOUO) 011-52-1-55-3733-8312 (CELL) 4.C.4.B.3. (U) ALTERNATE MEANS OF CONTACT - CONTACT US EMBASSY MEXICO AT 011-52-55-5080-2000. SELECT EMERGENCY

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ASSISTANCE AND REQUEST THE OPERATOR CONTACT DAO PERSONNEL TO ASSIST WITH THE EMERGENCY LEAVE REQUEST.

4.D. (U) TRAVEL APPROVAL AUTHORITIES (OFFICIAL AND NON OFFICIAL PERSONAL EMERGENCY AND ROUTINE LEAVE/PASS).

4.D.1. (U) MINIMUM APPROVAL AUTHORITY (APACS SUBMISSION) FOR OFFICIAL/NON-OFFICIAL TRAVEL TO NON-PROHIBITED AREAS OF MEXICO IS O-5 OR CIVILIAN EQUIVALENT.

4.D.2. (U) MINIMUM APPROVAL AUTHORITY (APACS SUBMISSION) FOR OFFICIAL/NON-OFFICIAL TRAVEL TO PROHIBITED AREAS OF MEXICO IS O-6 OR CIVILIAN EQUIVALENT.

4.D.3. (U) THESE MINIMUM APPROVAL AUTHORITIES CANNOT BE WAIVED OR DELEGATED.

4.E. (U) USNORTHCOM HAS NOT DIRECTED SUBORDINATE COMMANDS TO IMPOSE ADDITIONAL TRAVEL PROHIBITIONS, LIMITATIONS, OR CONSTRAINTS BEYOND THOSE IDENTIFIED IN PARAGRAPH 3; HOWEVER, USNORTHCOM REMAINS SUPPORTIVE OF ANY SUBORDINATE COMMANDERS ACTION TO INITIATE ADDITIONAL TRAVEL MEASURES DEEMED PRUDENT. SUBORDINATE COMMANDS ARE REQUIRED TO NOTIFY USNORTHCOM OF ANY ADDITIONAL MEASURES IMPOSED.

5. (U) USNORTHCOM TRAVEL ADVISORY. IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE PROHIBITED TRAVEL STATES, COMMANDER USNORTHCOM ADVISES ALL TRAVELERS, TO INCLUDE THOSE TRAVELLING FOR OFFICIAL OR NON-OFFICIAL PURPOSES (LEAVE/PASS), TO CONSIDER LIMITING TRAVEL TO THE FOLLOWING STATES. THEATER AND COUNTRY CLEARANCE IS NOT REQUIRED FOR PERSONAL TRAVEL (LEAVE/PASS) TO THE FOLLOWING STATES.

5.A. (U) AGUASCALIENTES. DEFER NON-ESSENTIAL TRAVEL TO THE AREAS OF THE STATE THAT BORDERS ZACATECAS.

5.B. (U) NAYARIT. DEFER NON-ESSENTIAL TRAVEL TO ALL AREAS OF THE STATE NORTH OF THE CITY OF TEPIC AS WELL AS TO THE CITIES OF TEPIC AND XALISCO.

5.C. (U) GUERRERO. USNORTHCOM TRAVEL ADVISORY REF F IS RESCINDED. YOU SHOULD DEFER NON-ESSENTIAL TRAVEL TO THE NORTHWESTERN AND SOUTHERN PORTIONS OF THE STATE (THE AREA WEST AND SOUTH OF THE TOWN OF ARCELIA ON THE BORDER WITH ESTADO DE MEXICO IN THE NORTH AND THE TOWN OF TLAPA NEAR THE BORDER WITH OAXACA), EXCEPT FOR THE CITIES OF ACAPULCO, ZIHUATANEJO, AND IXTAPA. IN ACAPULCO, AVOID NON-ESSENTIAL TRAVEL TO AREAS FURTHER THAN 2 BLOCKS INLAND OF THE COSTERA MIGUEL ALEMAN BOULEVARD, WHICH PARALLELS THE POPULAR BEACH AREAS. THE FOLLOWING SECURITY MEASURES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED:

5.C.1. (U) TRAVEL TO AND FROM THESE RESORT CITIES VIA AIR.

5.C.2. (U) STAY WITHIN THE CLEARLY IDENTIFIABLE TOURIST AREAS OF THESE CITIES.

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5.C.3. (U) MAINTAIN CELLULAR COMMUNICATIONS CAPABILITY.

5.C.4. (U) VEHICULAR TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS. LIMIT TRAVEL TO THE HIGHWAY 95D TOLL ROAD. IN ACAPULCO DO NOT DRIVE FARTHER THAN 2 BLOCKS INLAND OF THE COSTERA MIGUEL ALEMAN BOULEVARD WHICH PARALLELS THE POPULAR BEACH AREAS. IF DRIVING TO IXTAPA OR ZIHUATANEJO LIMIT TRAVEL TO COASTAL HIGHWAY 200.

5.D. (U) VERACRUZ. EXERCISE EXTREME CAUTION WHEN TRAVELLING TO VERACRUZ.

6. (U) SMART TRAVELER ENROLLMENT PROGRAM (STEP). ALL TRAVELERS ARE STRONGLY ADVISED TO ENROLL IN THIS FREE SERVICE PROVIDED BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TO U.S. CITIZENS WHO ARE TRAVELING TO, OR LIVING IN, A FOREIGN COUNTRY AT [HTTPS://TRAVELREGISTRATION.STATE.GOV/IBRS/UI/](https://travelregistration.state.gov/ibrs/ui/). STEP ALLOWS THE TRAVELER TO ENTER INFORMATION ABOUT THE TRIP SO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE CAN BETTER ASSIST IN AN EMERGENCY. TRAVELERS WILL BE ABLE TO RECEIVE TRAVEL ADVISORIES, WARNINGS, AND OTHER INFORMATION FROM THE EMBASSY OR CONSULATES.

7. (U) SERVICE COMPONENTS, DEFENSE AGENCIES, DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES, AND THEIR SUBORDINATE COMMANDS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTING TRAVEL POLICY AND PROCEDURES TO ENSURE PERSONNEL TRAVELING FOR OFFICIAL OR NON-OFFICIAL PURPOSES ARE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS DIRECTIVE AND REFERENCE B. COMMANDERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO CONSIDER AND DIRECT MITIGATION MEASURES FOR TRAVEL TO ALL PROHIBITED AND ADVISORY AREAS IN MEXICO. THESE COULD BE CURFEWS, BUDDY RULES, BOUNDARIES, PRE-TRAVEL BRIEFS, INDIVIDUAL ANTITERRORISM (AT) PLANS AND CONTACT PLANS.

8. (U) USNORTHCOM PUBLIC AFFAIRS GUIDANCE: PUBLIC AFFAIRS POSTURE IS ACTIVE FOR INTERNAL AUDIENCES. PUBLIC AFFAIRS POSTURE IS RESPONSE TO QUERY ONLY FOR GENERAL PUBLIC AND MEDIA. COMMANDERS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO TAKE AGGRESSIVE ACTION TO INFORM THEIR ASSIGNED PERSONNEL ABOUT THIS FORCE PROTECTION DIRECTIVE. MEDIA QUERIES BEYOND THE SCOPE OF THIS GUIDANCE SHOULD BE REFERRED TO USNORTHCOM PUBLIC AFFAIRS AT (719) 554-6889.

9. (U) MESSAGE ADDRESSEES (ORGANIZATIONS IN THE "TO" LINE) ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT AND DISSEMINATION OF THIS MESSAGE VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL TO USNORTHCOM/J34 AT NC.J34.RM.OMB@NORTHCOM.MIL NLT 302100Z MAR 12.

10. (U) MESSAGE POC IS USNORTHCOM J34, TEL COMM 719-554-8307 OR 3897, DSN 692, EMAIL [NC.J34.RM.OMB@NORTHCOM.\[SMIL\].MIL](mailto:NC.J34.RM.OMB@NORTHCOM.[SMIL].MIL).
AKNLDG/YES//

GENTEXT/AUTHENTICATION/USNORTHCOM OFFICIAL: J3/MAJGEN WALSH//

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