

consultations

To assist and inform the diplomatic and consular communities

U.S. Department of State Holds Security and Health Issues Briefing for Diplomatic Community



Dr. Cedric Dumont, Medical Director for the Department of State, (insert) addresses over 300 diplomats on the treatment for anthrax exposure. In background the are panel of presenters from left to right: Assistant Secretary for Diplomatic Security David Carpenter; Deputy Assistant Secretary for Security Peter Bergin; Deputy Chief Charles O'Malley, U.S. Secret Service; Deputy Assistant Theodore Strickler, Office of Foreign Missions; and Assistant Chief of Protocol Lawrence Dunham.

A panel of U.S. Department of State and other Government agency presenters responded to diplomatic security concerns and health questions that have arisen since the terrorist events on September 11. Members of the panel gave assurances to ambassadors and embassy representatives in a briefing and question and answer session at the Dean Acheson Auditorium at the Harry S Truman Building on October 26. Lawrence P. Dunham, Assistant Chief of Protocol, introduced panel members Ambassador David Carpenter, Assistant Secretary for Diplomatic Security; Peter Bergin, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Diplomatic Security; Charles O'Malley, Deputy Chief for Foreign Missions, U.S. Secret Service; Cedric Dumont, Medical Director, U.S. Department of State; and Theodore E. Strickler, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Foreign Missions. A spokesperson from the U.S. Postal Service fielded questions on safe mail handling and delivery.

Assistant Chief of Protocol Lawrence Dunham invited attendees to pick up security and health information available at the auditorium entrance and urged each person to share this information with embassy colleagues and consulates throughout the United States.

Ambassador David Carpenter opened by emphasizing how recent events have strengthened our collective resolve to fight terrorism. He stressed the importance of sharing information, and answering questions, but pointed out that not all actions taken by U.S. Government security organizations would be apparent to embassies.

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OFM Attends IACP Conference

Managing Director for Operations John Arndt led OFM's delegation at the 108th International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) conference in Toronto, Canada, October 27-31, 2001. This annual event attracts over 15,000 police officers and executives as well as 600 exhibitors.

OFM's participation in the conference, part of our outreach program with the law enforcement community, offered another opportunity to explain our mission and to

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FLORIDA OFFICE UPDATE

Regional Director Terry Daru, currently located in temporary offices in the Ft. Lauderdale area, is establishing contact with consulates in the southeast region of the United States while looking for a permanent regional office site. While available to consular officials, Mr. Daru requests that questions concerning motor vehicle and tax exemption card applications continue to be referred to the OFM headquarters in Washington. OFM anticipates that a full service office will be in operation by spring 2002.

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OFM Procedure

Suspect Packages and Anthrax

If you open an envelope or parcel and encounter an unidentified substance:

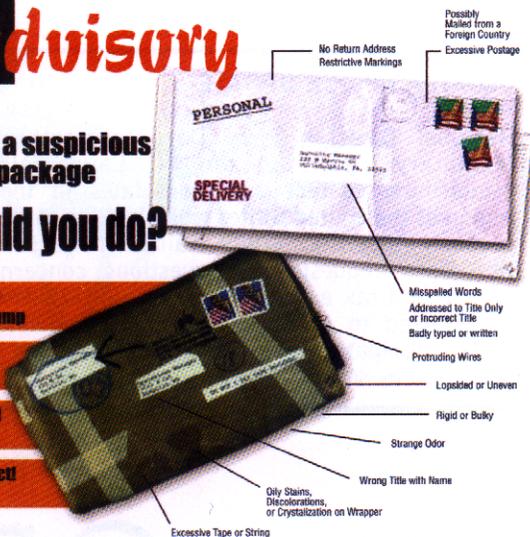
- Do not panic.
- Do not touch, smell, taste, or try to analyze the substance.
- Carefully place the item on your desk and step away from the immediate area.
- Alert others to keep away from the area.
- Remain in the general vicinity to minimize the spread of contamination.
- Notify the proper authorities:
Washington, DC — 202 556-8434
Outside Washington, DC — dial 911
- Turn off any circulating fans, air conditioning, or heaters.
- Do not attempt to wash off or disperse the agent.
- Wash your hands with soap and warm water
- Wait for trained medical and decontamination personnel to arrive.

FBI Advisory

If you receive a suspicious letter or package

What should you do?

- 1 Handle with care
Don't shake or bump
- 2 Isolate and look for indicators
- 3 Don't Open, Smell or Taste
- 4 Treat it as Suspect
Call 911



Courtesy of FBI: www.fbi.org

Q & A

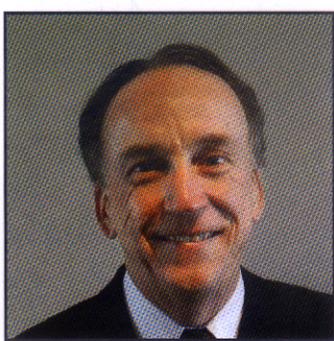
Frequently Asked Questions



Security Procedures and Precautions: Questions and Answers*

- Q.** Are any heightened security measures being taken by the U.S. Government to protect embassies and consulates in the U.S. from possible terrorist attacks?
- A.** Yes. The Uniformed Division of the U.S. Secret Service (UD), which provides police protection to foreign missions in Washington, has put greater numbers of officers into patrol activities. In addition, the Uniformed Division, in cooperation with the Diplomatic Security Service, has stepped up their program of providing security briefings to embassy staffs. Consulates around the country have received similar degrees of protection based on threat assessments conducted by their local police departments.
- Q.** What type of suspicious activity should prompt a call to the Uniformed Division or Diplomatic Security?
- A.** Any of the following should be reported immediately by calling 202 566-8434 (Consulates should use 911 for all emergencies):
1. Any package received by an embassy that emits strange odors, contains wires or other unusual electronic components. Packages out of the ordinary or that are addressed incorrectly or to nonspecific addressees should also be suspect, as well as mail containing any material deemed by the mission to be hazardous.
 2. Telephone bomb threats.
 3. Unknown vehicles that arrive or park at diplomatic facilities.
 4. Unknown persons loitering in embassy facilities or grounds, or photographing or observing embassy operations for long periods of time.
- Q.** What security measures should embassies and consulates implement immediately if they have not already done so?
- A.**
1. Embassies should develop emergency action plans for scenarios such as fire, natural disaster, bomb threats and demonstrations. Embassies should also examine their mail handling procedures in light of the recent spate of anthrax and anthrax hoax incidents. The Diplomatic Security Service, Protective Liaison Division (202 895-3600) can answer questions on these procedures and any other security issue facing an embassy or consulate.
 2. Embassies may wish to hire private security firms for access control.

*A security Q&A was included as an insert to the September issue of Consultations. Distribution was limited to embassies and other local organizations in the Washington area. The information has been updated and is being repeated here for the benefit of our wider newsletter audience.



Terry Daru

Terry Daru was assigned as director of the new Miami Regional Office. As a foreign service officer, Mr. Daru served in Thailand, Laos, Mexico and Indonesia. He served most recently as regional labor attaché in Bridgetown, Barbados, where he worked with labor unions and trade ministries in the Eastern Caribbean, Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago. He holds a master's degree from the American Graduate School of International Management (Thunderbird), in Phoenix, Arizona.



Rebecca Pasini

Rebecca Pasini was assigned as Deputy Director, under the directorship of Denise Duclon, in the Chicago Regional Office, as a result of an organizational upgrade. Ms. Pasini joined the Foreign Service in 1997, after completing a Ph.D. in political science. She served in Kuwait as a Vice Consul/Assistant General Services Officer and in Washington as a Policy Planning Officer in the Bureau of Western Hemispheric Affairs. She is looking forward to helping with OFM's Chicago Regional Office outreach within the consular corps community.



Evan G. Reade

Evan G. Reade was assigned as Deputy Director, under the directorship of Leroy Dal Porto, in the San Francisco Regional Office, as a result of an organizational upgrade. He holds a B.A. degree from the University of California and a law degree from The American University, Washington College of Law. Mr. Reade joined the Foreign Service in 1989 and served as Vice Consul in Barbados, Political Officer in Tunisia, Watch Officer in the State Department

Operations Center, Duty Officer in The White House Situation Room, and Country Desk Officer for Libya/Tunisia in the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs. His most recent assignment was in Casablanca, Morocco, as Consul, Chief of Consular Section. A California native, he is looking forward to getting back to the San Francisco Bay area to renew old friendships and make new ones.

Faces of OFM



Focus on Security: Regional Office Activities and General Awareness

OFM Attends Luncheon for Consular Corps of Miami



Nabil J. Achkar,
Secretary of the
Consular Corps
of Miami

The Consular Corps of Miami held a luncheon meeting on October 11 in Miami. Angela Gittens, director of Miami International Airport, described enhanced airport security measures. In addition, OFM's Managing Director for Operations John Arndt and Miami Regional Director Terry Daru met with over 50 guests, including members of Miami's career and honorary consular corps as well as representatives from business and media. They explained OFM's ongoing program for expanded liaison with consulates, government officials, and the international communities in the southern United States and Puerto Rico.

Biggest Turnout Ever for Los Angeles Office of Foreign Mission Conference

Sixty-eight consular officers representing 40 of the 54 countries with consulates in Los Angeles attended a September 26 conference in Los Angeles organized by the Office of Foreign Missions. OFM reworked the agenda for this event in view of the tragic events of September 11, switching the main emphasis from administration to security. Representatives of the Diplomatic Security Service, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Los Angeles Police Department and the Los Angeles International Airport Security Service made separate presentations and then joined together as a panel for the question and answer period.

The event focused on the ongoing work of the regional office. Regional Director David Van Valkenburg addressed consular corps concerns on identification cards, social security numbers, sales tax exemptions and consular notification. Information Specialist Ellen Frost covered diplomatic motor vehicle issues. Intern Laszlo Kupan discussed utility taxes. Los Angeles County Deputy Director of Protocol Ginger Barnard explained the difference between county taxes (from which many consulates are exempt) and county service assessments (which all property owners must pay).



Following the tragic events of September 11, security experts (men in black) spoke at the OFM Los Angeles Consular Corps Conference. Left to right, they are Garth Pettijohn (Diplomatic Security Service), Louis Gray (Los Angeles Police Department), Darren Gilbert (Los Angeles International Airport Police) and Darryl Elliott (Federal Bureau of Investigation).

Security & Health Issues

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Deputy Assistant Secretary Peter Bergin noted that the briefing was opening communications with respect to security issues. The Department's view, he stated, is that no one has to face these threats alone.

Chief Charles O'Malley commented that the U.S. Secret Service seems to be the first point of contact for embassies when there is a terrorist threat. He endorsed this practice, and reiterated "Call, we will respond."

Dr. Cedric Dumont remarked that we are going into unknown territory with the issue of exposure to biological agents, but stressed that all major facilities in Washington know how to respond to anthrax.

Deputy Assistant Secretary Theodore Strickler described the effects of the September 11 events on diplomatic pouches, but reported that there is no longer any restrictions on handling the pouches. Airport security procedures were back to normal for travelers and VIP arrivals at Dulles. In response to inquiries from several embassies, Mr. Strickler commented that no changes in the diplomatic license plate design are currently in progress. However, he added that the Office of Foreign Missions would address any license plate concerns. Mr. Strickler encouraged attendees to pass along the security information to consulates and to instruct those consulates to contact OFM regional offices with any questions.

Ambassador Carpenter concluded by noting that potential terrorist events can paralyze a population. But, he continued, the important thing is that individuals can develop a plan for greater preparedness.

OFM Thank you

The Office of Foreign Missions would like to thank everyone who telephoned or visited us after the events of September 11, 2001. We deeply appreciated your words of sympathy, friendship and patience during this difficult time.

Los Angeles Change of Address

New address of Los Angeles Regional Office effective November 30:

10940 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1425
Los Angeles, California 90024

Telephone and fax numbers stay the same.

IACP Conference

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provide law enforcement officials with information concerning the privileges and immunities of diplomats and consular officials. Our regional directors especially enjoy the chance to renew acquaintances and meet new contacts during our comprehensive training and education program on diplomatic immunity, consular notification and access, and OFM's Diplomatic Motor Vehicle program. We offer this training in cooperation with the State Department's Diplomatic Security Service Protective Liaison Division. OFM looks forward to participating in next year's IACP conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Q&A

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3. Embassies should ensure that existing security equipment such as alarms are in proper working order, should test them frequently, and should advise the police after such tests.

Q How will the U.S. Government get information to embassies and consulates during future attacks or incidents?

A. The best source of information during events such as the ones that occurred on September 11, 2001, are media outlets such as local news channels and CNN. Please do not phone Government offices during the crisis (except to report actual incidents such as a fire at an embassy), as doing so will only make coordination and response more difficult.

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