



Emergency Message for U.S. Citizens: Bissau (Guinea-Bissau), Ongoing Fighting

Political Violence

Africa > Guinea-Bissau > Bissau

12/26/2011

Sources in Guinea Bissau report that there is fighting ongoing between military factions in the capital of Bissau during the day on Monday, December 26, 2011. It is unclear at the moment why the fighting started or when it may end. U.S. citizens currently in Bissau are advised to shelter in place until it is safe to move about. Stay tuned to news reports for further information, and if it is absolutely necessary to move about the capital exercise extreme caution and avoid gatherings should you come upon them.

There is currently no permanent U.S. diplomatic or consular presence in GuineaBissau. The U.S. Embassy in Dakar, Senegal is accredited for all diplomatic and security concerns. The U.S. Liaison Office in Bissau (BLO) can provide limited services to U.S. citizens in the event of an emergency. However, all security and consular services should be coordinated through American Citizens Services Section and the Regional Security Office at the U.S. Embassy in Dakar, Senegal. The U.S. Liaison Office is located at: Edifício SITEC, Rua José Carlos Schwarz 245, Bairro d'Ajuda (Telephone: 2453256382).

You can stay in touch and get Embassy updates by checking the U.S. Embassy Dakar web site (<http://dakar.usembassy.gov/>). You can also get global updates at the U.S. Department of State's, Bureau of Consular Affairs website where you can find the current Worldwide Caution, Travel Warning, Travel Alerts, and Country Specific Information (http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1013.html). Follow us on Twitter and the Bureau of Consular Affairs page on Facebook as well or you can download our free Smart Traveler iPhone App for travel information at your fingertips. If you don't have internet access, current information on safety and security can also be obtained by calling 18884074747 tollfree in the United States, or for callers from other countries, a regular toll line at 12025014444. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).

If you are going to live in or travel to Senegal or Guinea Bissau, please take the time to tell us about your trip by enrolling in the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) (<https://travelregistration.state.gov/ibrs/ui/>). If you enroll, we can keep you up to date with important safety and security announcements. It will also help your friends and family get in touch with you in an emergency. You should remember to keep all of your information in STEP up to date. It is important during enrollment or updating of information to include your



current phone number and current email address where you can be reached in case of an emergency.

The U.S. Embassy in Dakar is located on at Avenue Jean XXIII, Dakar; the mailing address is B.P. 49, Dakar, Senegal. If you have questions or concerns about safety or related issues, you are encouraged to contact the consular section at the Embassy by sending an email message to consulardakar@state.gov . The Embassy telephone number is +221 33 8292100. For After Hours Emergency, please call Tel: 338292209 and ask to speak to the duty officer.