



Emergency Message for U.S. Citizens: Cairo (Egypt), Protest in Central Cairo

Riots/Civil Unrest

Near East > Egypt > Cairo

11/23/2012

Embassy Cairo wishes to inform U.S. citizens that they should avoid travel in and around Garden City and Downtown today, because of continued clashes between rock throwing youths and the potential for large groups gathering and moving through the area. Traveling by metro into Tahrir Square, as well as pedestrian and vehicular traffic is strongly discouraged. Additionally, recent political tensions have required U.S. citizens to travel with caution to avoid protest gatherings throughout Egypt and metropolitan areas.

Although no protests are focused against the U.S. Embassy, movement on the streets around the Embassy perimeter is impeded at various location by check points, protest groups and police activities. Local guards have reported tens of protestors clashing with police in front of The People's Assembly and traffic blockages near the Egyptian Museum on Qasr Al Aini Street. Tahrir Square has been quiet; however, groups are expected to gather there with the potential for violence and traffic congestion that may result in drivers seeking alternate routes to or from Downtown.

As a matter of general practice, U.S. citizens should avoid areas where large gatherings may occur. Even demonstrations or events intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and possibly escalate into violence. U.S. citizens in Egypt are urged to monitor local news reports and to plan their activities accordingly.

The Embassy reminds U.S. citizens to review their personal security plans and remain alert to their surroundings at all times in Egypt. For the latest security information, U.S. citizens traveling abroad should regularly monitor the Department of State's Internet website where the Worldwide Caution, Country Specific Information for Egypt, Travel Warnings, and Travel Alerts, including the current Travel Alert for Egypt, can be found. You can also follow the Bureau of Consular Affairs on Twitter and on Facebook. You can also download our free Smart TravelerApp available through iTunes and the Android market to have travel information at your fingertips. Up-to-date information on security can also be obtained by

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calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada, or, for callers outside of the United States and Canada, on a 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).

U.S. citizens are advised to maintain valid travel documents and enroll with the Department of State or the U.S. Embassy Cairo through the State Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program website. If you enroll we can keep you up to date with important safety and security announcements and can also help your family and friends get in touch with you in an emergency. U.S. citizens without Internet access may enroll directly with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate.

For further information, U.S. citizens may call the Embassy's American Citizens Services Unit at 2797-2301 during business hours, Sunday to Thursday from 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Please refer to the American Citizens Services Facebook page at:

www.facebook.com/USEmbassyCairoACS. For emergencies after business hours and on weekends and holidays, U.S. citizens can contact the Embassy Duty Officer via the Embassy switchboard at 2797-3300. The Embassy is located at 5 Tawfik Diab Street (formerly known as Latin America Street), Garden City, Cairo.

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