



## Security Message for U.S. Citizens: Libreville (Gabon), Gabonese Election

Other; Elections

Africa > Gabon; Africa > Gabon > Libreville

9/1/2016

The U.S. Embassy in Libreville informs U.S. citizens that widespread, violent demonstrations, rioting and looting have taken place in Libreville, particularly in the area of Cite de la Democratie-Voie Express-Boulevard Triomphal, and extending through many of the city's central and southern neighborhoods following the announcement of presidential election results. Further protests and demonstrations are expected in the coming days.

Security forces have responded to the situation with tear gas and have placed roadblocks at major arterial roads, cutting off transportation across the city. There is also debris and burned cars blocking the roads in some areas.

There are reports of violence in the cities of Oyem, Bitam, Port Gentil and Lambarene. At this time the airport is open and operational and commercial flights are available. The Embassy recommends U.S. citizens remain in a safe location and avoid non-essential movement. The Embassy continues to monitor the situation and will update you as appropriate.

Review your personal security plans, remain aware of your surroundings, including local events, and monitor local news stations for updates. Be vigilant and take appropriate steps to enhance your personal security.

The U.S. Embassy in Libreville will be open with limited operations on Friday, September 2. Routine consular services have been cancelled, but emergency consular services for U.S. citizens continue to be available. Please consult the Embassy website for updated information on the Embassy's operational status.

The Embassy will be closed on Monday, September 5 for the Labor Day holiday.

For further information:

- See the **State Department's travel website** for the **Worldwide Caution**, Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and **Gabon Country Specific Information**.
- Enroll in the **Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP)** to receive security messages and make it easier to locate you in an emergency.

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- Contact the U.S. Embassy in Gabon, located in Libreville, Quartier Sabliere at 241-01-45-71-00 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Friday. After-hours emergency number for U.S. citizens is 241-01-07-38-01-71.
- Call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).

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