Knowing Your Resources: Working with the Department of State and the Overseas Security Advisory Council

NAFSA Regional Conference Indianapolis, IN November 2010



Office of American Citizens
Services and Crisis Management,
U.S. Department of State











American Citizens Abroad

- Americans make over 60 million trips abroad every year
- 4.5 million Americans reside overseas
- Over 200,000 students study abroad





Assistance for Citizens Abroad

- Issuance of Emergency Passports
- Welfare/whereabouts
- Arrests
- Medical Emergencies
- Crisis response
- Routine Services
- Cradle-to-Grave Assistance Your Town Hall Overseas



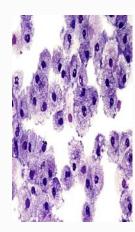
Welfare/whereabouts requests

- Over 200,000 requests per year
- Contact hospitals, hotels, jails, local authorities, etc.
- Privacy Act limitations
- Cannot compel response or return to the U.S.
- Phone home!!





Medical Emergencies



- Help identify medical resources
- Make a consular visit
- Provide basic translation
- Help identify financial resources
- Notify friends/family
- Help coordinate medical evacuations



Arrests



- More than 2,500 per year; 30 % drug related
- U.S. citizens subject to host country laws
- Consular notification and access
- Monitor case; communicate with family & the U.S. Department of State



Crisis Response

- Call center over 300K calls in first two days after Haiti earthquake!
- Immediate needs
- Departure/assisted evacuation





Additional Assistance

- Deaths & estates
 - Approximately 6,000 Americans die outside of the U.S. each year.; mostly long-term residents overseas
 - We notify the next of kin about options and costs for disposition of remains. Costs for preparing and returning a body to the U.S. are high and are the responsibility of the family. Often local laws and procedures make returning a body to the U.S. for burial a lengthy process.
- Crime/terrorism victims' assistance
- Kidnappings
- Financial assistance, repatriations



Consular Information Program

"Know Before You Go"



The Consular Information Program aims to help Americans living and traveling abroad make *informed decisions and plans*.



Consular Information Program

- No Double Standard Policy
 - Specific, credible, non-counterable threat
 - Collaboration with Regional Security
 Officers



Consular Information Program

- Country Specific Information (CSI)
 - available for every country of the world
 - location of the U.S. embassy or consulate in the subject country, unusual immigration practices, health conditions, minor political disturbances, unusual currency and entry regulations, crime and security information, and drug penalties
- Travel Warnings: long-term, protracted conditions that make a country dangerous or unstable
- Travel Alerts: short-term conditions, generally within a particular country, that pose imminent risks to the security of U.S. citizens
- Warden Messages: Register!! https://travelregistration.state.gov/ibrs/ui/
- Fact Sheets (e.g. avian influenza)
- All on travel.state.gov

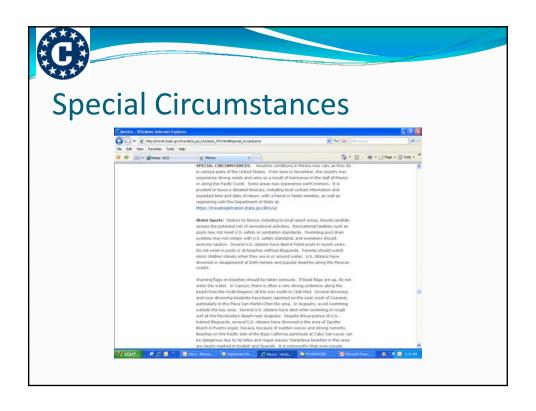


Consular Information Program

- Information from variety of sources
 - Embassies, consulates; 250 in nearly every country in the world
 - Intelligence community
 - Media
 - Foreign governments

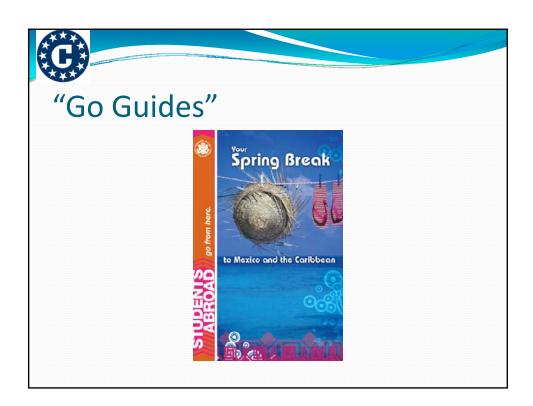














Contacts

- Emergency Call Center 24/7: call 1-888-407-4747 (from overseas: 202-501-4444)
- Passports
 - Travel.state.gov Automated Appointment Number: 1-877-487-2778
- Visas
 - Travel.state.gov
 - http://www.usembassy.gov/
 - Public Inquiries Division at (202) 663-1225



Thank You

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What is OSAC?

Yesterday...

Created in 1985 to promote security cooperation between the American private sector worldwide and the U.S. Government

Today...

Joint venture with over 7,500 constituent representatives, and over 140 local OSAC country councils

Academic Outreach



OSAC's Strategic Objectives

- Establish continuing *liaison* between the U.S. government and the private sector
- Provide regular and timely exchange of security information in the overseas environment
- Provide guidance such as "best practices" for coordinated security planning and implementation
- Protect the global competitiveness of American organizations operating overseas

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OSAC Executive Council

- 30 Private Sector Organizations
 - Including academic institutions, NGOs, and faith-based institutions
- Technical Advisors
 - U.S. Government Agencies
- Co-Chaired by Director of Diplomatic Security and Private Sector Representative
- Meet quarterly to create and implement OSAC's strategic plan
 - ► <u>HELD ACCOUNTABLE</u> to private sector needs

Academic Outreach

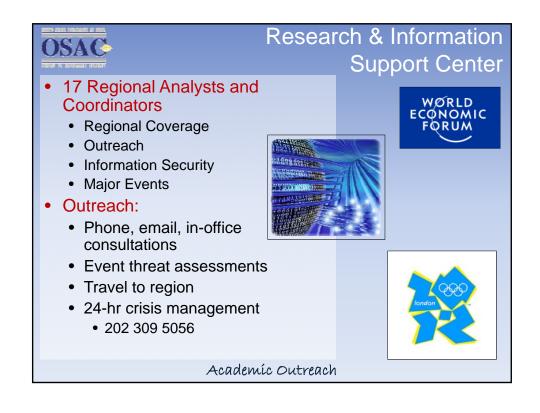
OSAC

OSAC Council Members

-Hyatt	-Pepperdine
-InterAction	-Principal Financial
-KPMG	-Procter & Gamble
-Levi Strauss	-Raytheon
-Loyola Marymount	-Save the Children
-Maritz	-Starwood Hotels
-McCormick & Co.	-Target
-MeadWestvaco	-United Airlines
-Merck	-U.S. Steel
-NBA	-Verizon
-NYSE	-Visa
	-Walt Disney
Academic Outreach	
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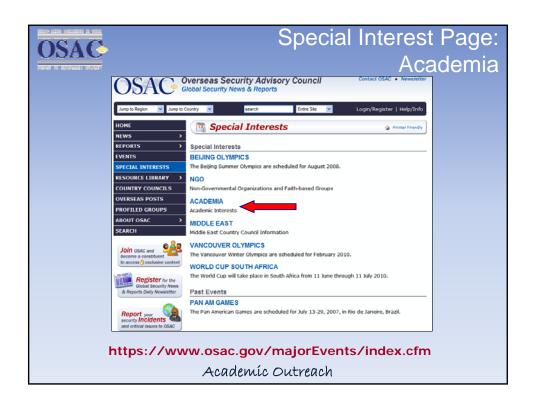
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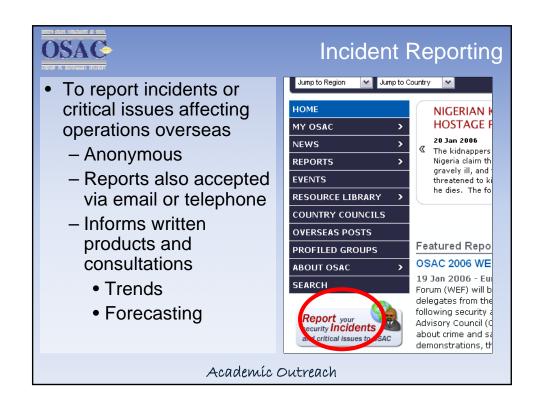














- Bombings
- Kidnappings
- Surveillance
- Riots, Protests
- Property Damage
- Cybercrime

- **Incident Tracking**
- Economic Espionage
- Harassment by Local Government
- · Robbery, Carjacking
- Major Diseases
- Natural Disasters







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OSAC

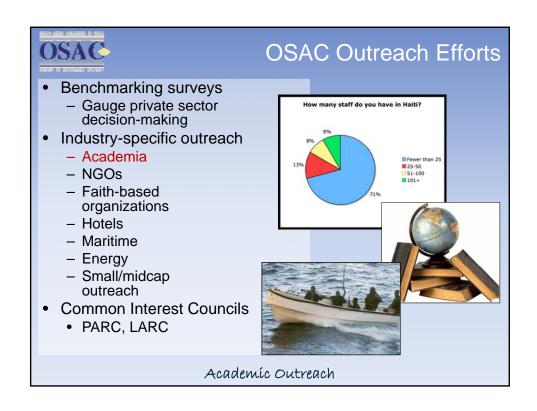
- New website: November 2010
 - Provide better constituent outreach and interaction
 - Deliver OSAC products in effective, timely manner
 - Allows for customization, collaboration
 - Blogs, chat rooms, maps
- Webcasting:
 - Live Q&A
 - Available on website

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New Initiatives



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How Country Councils Can Help

- Resident Directors in country welcome and useful contributors to Country Councils
 - Provide immediate access to
 - Regional Security Officer (RSO)
 - Changing conditions
 - Security professionals in the private sector
 - Collaborate on addressing shared concerns
 - Offer extra support layer during extreme crisis

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OSAC

Crisis Management

- Information Sharing
 - Duty officer and regional analyst
 - Post-incident report
- Benchmarking
 - Private sector response
- Evacuation
 - USG efforts
 - Transportation information



Mumbai



Haiti

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