### General Precautions For Travel

### Today's Travel Environment

- More hectic and stressful than in past
  - Air Carriers have higher load factors, which means more people to encounter
- Higher levels of security
  - Creates unknowns and more stress for travelers

## Suggestions For Confronting The Challenges of Travel

- Do your research
  - http://www.tsa.dhs.gov/travelers/index.shtm Provides information for travelers: with disabilities, with religious and cultural needs, who are traveling with special items such as medications, and other information that may apply
- Make sure that your identification is current. An expired drivers license/passport will prevent you from being allowed to fly
- Pack in accordance with TSA recommendations Check the Prohibited Items list on the website for current updates



# Suggestions For Confronting The Challenges of Travel

- Arrive early for your flight (minimum 2 hours for International Flights).
- If you have questions, ask!
   Representatives of the airline are located throughout the terminals.
- Arrive well rested and be prepared for changes in schedules

#### Interactions with Local Authorities

- German laws are different than American laws, and the police have more authority to conduct activities with less cause.
- ALWAYS deal with authorities in a civil manner that indicates cooperation and respect
- Returning travel security is much more process oriented than in America. Remain cooperative and follow instructions.

### Concerns For Travelers In Germany - Terrorism

#### Terrorism

- There are no current events occurring in Germany that would pose a high risk
- Germany has not been free of terrorist incidents, but they are rare as compared to other European nations
- There is no animosity toward American citizens

### Concerns For Travelers In Germany - Crime

- Violent crime is rare in Germany
- Most common crime risks are pickpockets and thefts of opportunity
- Telephone equivalent of 911 in Germany is 112

- 1) Use the same common sense traveling overseas that you would at home. Be especially cautious in or avoid areas where you are likely to be victimized. These include crowded subways, train stations, elevators, tourist sites, market places, festivals, and marginal areas of cities.
- 2) Avoid public demonstrations.
- 3) Keep a low profile and avoid loud conversations or arguments. Do not discuss religion or politics. Do not discuss travel plans or other personal matters with strangers.

- 4) Try to seem purposeful when you move about. Even if you are lost, act as if you know where you are going. When possible, ask directions only from individuals in authority.
- 5) Eat, socialize, and travel with others known to you when possible. Avoid going alone to local bars and drinking establishments

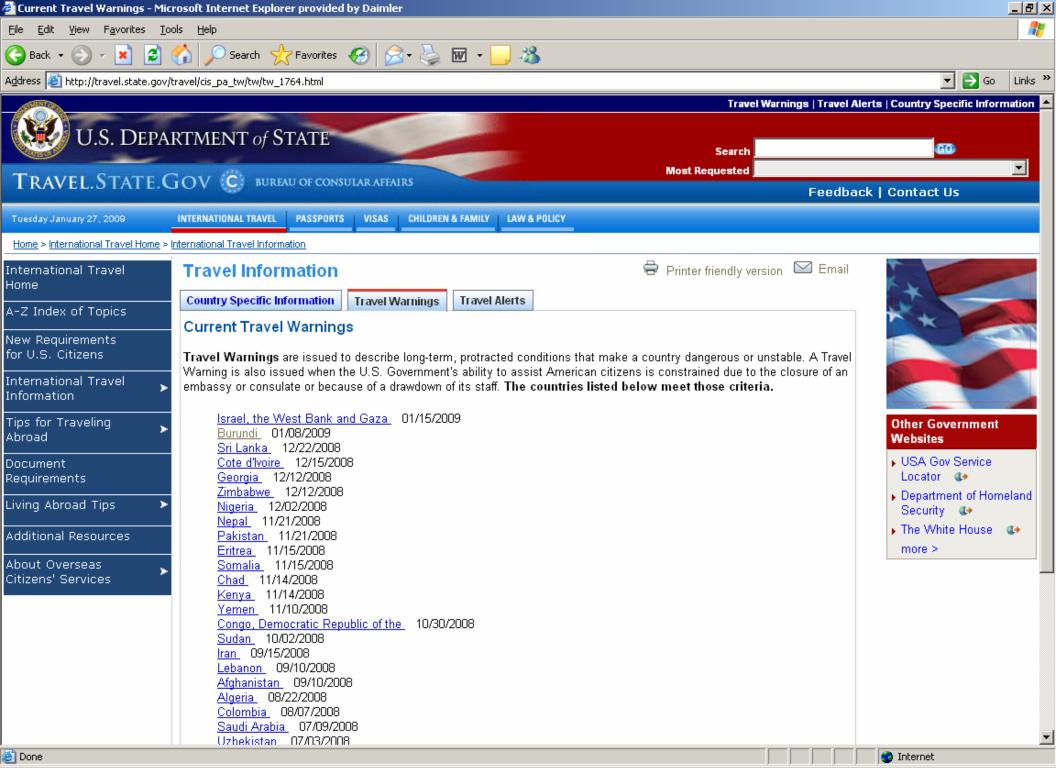
6) Maintain a high level of situational awareness. Situational awareness is the process of recognizing a threat at an early stage and taking measures to avoid it. Being observant of one's surroundings and identifying potential threats and dangerous situations is more of an attitude or mindset than it is a hard skill.

- 7) Watch local news broadcasts to stay informed.
- 8) Confine travel to main roads and tourist areas.

- 9) Maintain a low profile. Dress casually and do not draw attention to yourself with jewelry or expensive clothes.
- 10) Avoid displaying large amounts of cash.
- 11) Provide an itinerary to someone who is not traveling with you and check in with that person on a regular basis.
- 12) Avoid handbags, fanny packs, and outside pockets that are easy targets for thieves. Inside pockets and a sturdy shoulder bag with a strap worn across your chest are somewhat safer. One of the safest places to carry valuables is in a pouch or money belt worn under your clothing.

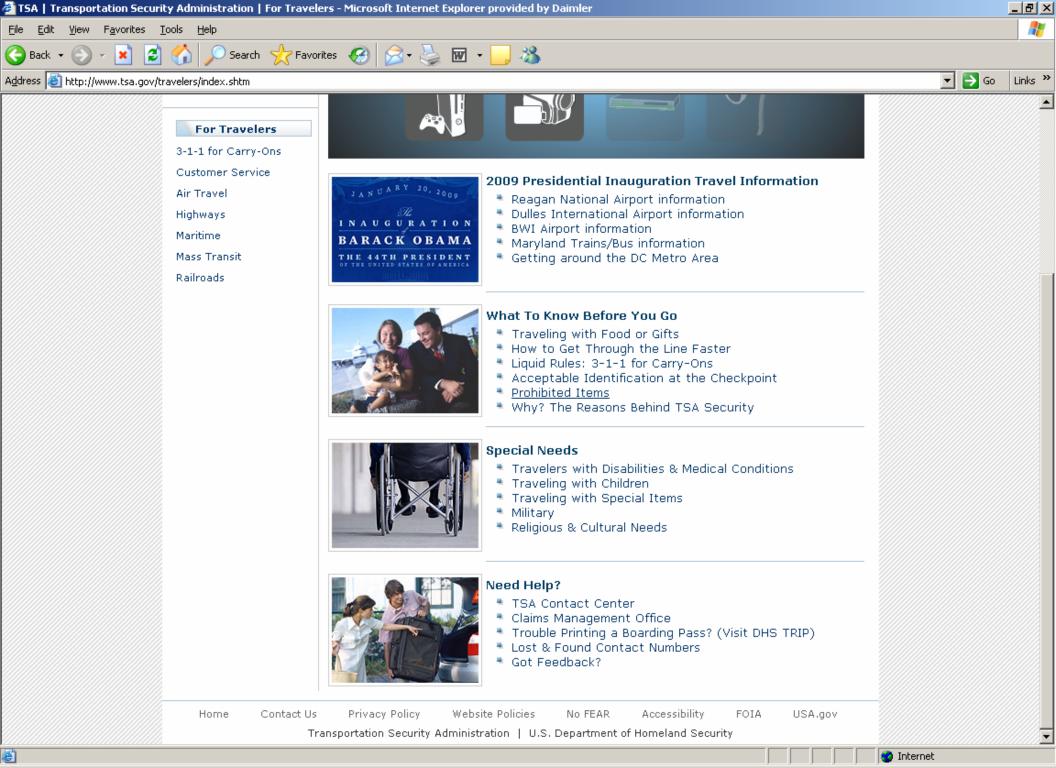
#### Resources

<u>www.State.gov</u> – U.S. State Department website with updated travel advisories



#### Resources

<u>www.tsa.gov</u> – Transportation Security Administration



#### Resources

Websites for breaking news stories: www.foxnews.com, www.cnn.com

- <u>www.mbusi.com/travel</u>
  - Password: TEAM

#### U.S. Consular Sections

- U.S. Consular Sections are located at:
- Berlin: Clayallee 170;
   Tel: (49) (30)832-9233; Fax: (49) (30) 8305-1215
   American Citizen Services Email: <u>ACSBerlin@state.gov</u>
- Frankfurt: Giessner Str. 30,
   Tel. (49) (69) 75350; Fax: (49) (69) 7535-2304.
   American Citizen Services Email: GermanyACS@state.gov
   Passport Inquiries Email: FrankfurtPassports@state.gov
- Leipzig: Wilhelm-Seyfferth-Strasse 4,
   Tel. (49) (341) 213-8418; Fax: (49) (341) 2138417 (emergency service only).
- Munich: Koenigstrasse 5,
   Tel. (49) (89) 2888-0; Fax: (49) (89) 280-9998.
   American Citizen Services Email: ConsMunich@state.gov
- There is also a U.S. consular agency in Bremen at Bremen World Trade Center,
  Birkenstrasse 15,
  Tel: (49) (421) 301-5860; Fax: (49) (421) 301-5861.
- When calling another city from within Germany, dial a zero before the city code (for example, when calling Berlin from Munich, the city code for Berlin is 030).

#### Questions?

For additional information contact:

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