



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
HEADQUARTERS, 1<sup>ST</sup> ARMORED DIVISION AND FORT BLISS  
1733 PLEASANTON ROAD  
FORT BLISS, TEXAS 79916-6816

AFBL-CG

JUL 15 2011

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Command Policy Letter #3, Prohibition of Travel to Certain Mexican States and Cities

1. The narcotics-related violence in Mexico continues to present an unacceptable risk to the health, safety, welfare, and morale of Department of Defense personnel and their families.
2. This memorandum implements USARNORTH FP Travel Directive 10-003 (Mexico), 251752Z OCT 10.
3. Effective immediately and until further notice:
  - a. Routine, unofficial travel (leave and pass) to or through the following Mexican States is prohibited for all active duty and reserve component personnel in Title 10 status assigned to Fort Bliss, Texas: Chihuahua, Coahuila, Sinaloa, Durango, Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas, Michoacan, and the City of Nogales.
  - b. All Mexican cities along the U.S.-Mexican border are off-limits to all active duty and reserve component personnel in Title 10 status assigned to Fort Bliss, Texas.
  - c. Land travel by personally owned vehicle (POV) into and throughout Mexico, for routine, unofficial travel, is prohibited.
4. I strongly urge all members of Team Bliss (including foreign military students) not to travel or pass through these areas for their own safety and security.
5. This order does not currently affect travel to other areas of Mexico. Service members are reminded to use extreme caution at all times while traveling to and through areas not currently prohibited and will follow the requirements of AR 600-8-10 and AR 525-13 accordingly.
6. Emergency, Unofficial Travel. Theater clearance is not required. Brigade-level Commanders may approve travel to and through these areas on a case-by-case basis for emergency and unofficial situations. Brigade Commanders will not delegate this approval authority. Commanders approving travel will take the following measures:
  - a. Conduct, complete and maintain a command approved risk assessment prior to requested travel date. See Enclosure 1 (Unofficial Travel Risk Assessment Form).

b. Ensure the Service member has current Level I Antiterrorism Awareness Training (<https://atlevel1.ditc.mil/at/>) within 90 days of requested travel.

c. Ensure that the Service member has received appropriate threat/area briefing from a qualified Antiterrorism Officer/ Brigade S-2 within 30 days of requested travel. All Service members who have a Top Secret Clearance and/or are read-on to the SCI level must coordinate with the G2 SSO to obtain any additional threat/area briefings NLT 30 days prior to requested travel or as soon as they request emergency or unofficial travel. If your organization does not have a qualified Antiterrorism Officer, contact the Plans and Operations Division, DPTMS, for assistance.

d. Ensure the Service member is advised that all U.S. citizens (including Soldiers) are now required to present a Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI) compliant document, such as a passport or a passport card, when re-entering the United States.

e. Report approved travel NLT the last day of each month to the Fort Bliss IOC Watch Officer for reporting requirements: [IOC\\_OIC@conus.army.mil](mailto:IOC_OIC@conus.army.mil).

7. Official Travel. Theater clearance is required. Brigade-level Commanders may approve official travel to and through these areas on a case-by-case basis for mission essential travel. Brigade Commanders will not delegate this approval authority. Commanders approving travel will take the following measures:

a. Conduct, complete and maintain a command approved risk assessment NLT 14 days prior to requested travel date. See Enclosure 2 (Official Travel Risk Assessment Form).

b. Ensure the Service member has current Level I Antiterrorism Awareness Training (<https://atlevel1.ditc.mil/at/>) within 90 days of requested travel.

c. Ensure that the Service member has received appropriate threat/area briefing from a qualified Antiterrorism Officer/ Brigade S-2 within 30 days of requested travel. All Service members who have a Top Secret Clearance and/or are read-on to the SCI level must coordinate with the G2 SSO to obtain any additional threat/area briefings NLT 30 days prior to requested travel. If your organization does not have a qualified Antiterrorism Officer, contact the Plans and Operations Division, DPTMS, for assistance.

d. Ensure the Service member is advised that they are required to travel with and present a Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI) compliant document, such as a passport or a passport card when re-entering the United States. For Military personnel, this includes U.S. Military Identification with Military Travel Orders in their possession.

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e. Upon Brigade-level Commander approval, submit travel request to the BDE S-2 to coordinate submission of theater clearance request NLT 14 days prior to date of requested travel. A copy of the command approved risk assessment form shall be provided to the ARNORTH PMO Operation Watch Center at: [ARNORTHAOCPMO@conus.army.mil](mailto:ARNORTHAOCPMO@conus.army.mil).

f. Report approved travel NLT the last day of each month to the Fort Bliss IOC Watch Officer for reporting requirements: [IOC\\_OIC@conus.army.mil](mailto:IOC_OIC@conus.army.mil).

8. Air Travel. Except as provided, all travel on Mexican air carriers is prohibited without waiver. DA personnel may only fly on Mexican carriers from Mexico on the last leg into and the first leg out of the United States without waiver.

9. I will periodically re-evaluate these restrictions based on updated assessments by USARNORTH.

10. Entering Mexico with a firearm, any type of knife or even a single round of ammunition is illegal. Even if the weapon or ammunition is taken into Mexico unintentionally, the Mexican government strictly enforces its laws restricting the entry of firearms and ammunition along all land borders and at airports and seaports. Violations have resulted in arrests, convictions, and long prison sentences for U.S. citizens.

10. Military personnel who violate or fail to obey this policy will subject themselves to administrative or disciplinary action under Article 92, Uniform Code of Military Justice.

11. This letter supersedes the Temporary Off-Limits of Cities in Mexico, dated 1 December 2009 and is effective until rescinded.

12. Place this memorandum on unit bulletin boards and give it the widest dissemination. This policy is effective upon signature and will remain in effect until superseded or rescinded. Point of contact for this policy is the G2, Fort Bliss, Texas at (915) 569-4675.

  
DANA J.H. PITTARD  
Major General, USA  
Commanding

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