

U.S. Embassy Brazzaville, Congo

Security Message for U.S. Citizens: Update on Security Situation

December 19, 2013

Around noon today, the Embassy received reports of unusual military activity near the Institut Francais du Congo (ICF or CCF, French Cultural Center) roundabout downtown. There were also reports of panicked citizens leaving the area. Although the Embassy has not received reports of any violence thus far, given the heightened tensions, the Embassy urges everyone to maintain caution when traveling in the area around the courthouse, and the CCF, as well as to avoid the area around the Maison D'Arret, if possible.

There were reports of unexploded ordnance in the area surrounding the Maison D'Arret and the Embassy urges everyone to use extreme caution while traveling in this area. Should you encounter any munitions, alert the authorities. Do not attempt to handle them yourself.

As a normal security precaution, keep your phones charged and with you at all times. The Embassy will continue to monitor the situation and report any significant updates.

The Embassy urges all U.S. citizens in the Republic of Congo to register online at the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program](#) (STEP). Registering gives U.S. citizens access to updated information on travel and security within the Congo and makes it easier for the Embassy to contact citizens in case of emergency.

You can stay in touch and get Embassy updates by checking the website of the [U.S. Embassy in The Republic of the Congo](#). You can also get global updates at the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Consular Affairs website where you can find the current [Worldwide Caution](#), [Travel Warnings](#), [Travel Alerts](#), and [Country Specific Information](#). Follow us on [Twitter](#) and on the ACS Nairobi page on [Facebook](#) as well, or you can download our free Smart Traveler App, available through [iTunes](#) and the [Google Play](#) store, to have travel information at your fingertips. If you don't have internet access, current information on safety and security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada, or, for callers from other countries, 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).

The U.S. Embassy is located on Boulevard Denis Sassou Nguesso across from the Blanche Gomez Maternity Hospital. The Consular Section is open Monday-Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and on Fridays from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The Consular section can be reached via e-mail at BrazzavilleACS@state.gov, and our daytime telephone number is (+242) 06 612-2046. For after-hours emergencies, call (+242) 05 526-0673.