

US Pulls Personnel From Israel as War Fears With Iran Explode

As tensions between Israel and Iran continue to deteriorate and the United States amasses significant military assets across the Middle East, fears of a broader regional war are growing by the day.

Against that volatile backdrop, the U.S. Embassy in Jerusalem has taken a significant step, authorizing the departure of non-emergency American personnel and their families from Israel, signaling deep concern over rapidly escalating security threats.

In a travel advisory update issued Feb. 27, 2026, the Department of State announced it had “authorized the departure of non-emergency U.S. government personnel and family members of U.S. government personnel from Mission Israel due to safety risks.”

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In response to security incidents and without advance notice, the U.S....

– U.S. Embassy Jerusalem – Palestinian Audiences (@USEmbassyJLMPal) February 27, 2026

The advisory proves just how unstable the situation has become.

“The security environment is complex and can change quickly, and violence can occur in Israel, the West Bank, and Gaza without warning,” the report states. It adds that “terrorist groups, lone-actor terrorists and other violent extremists continue plotting possible attacks in Israel, the West Bank, and Gaza.”

According to the embassy, “terrorists and violent extremists may attack with little or no warning, targeting tourist locations, transportation hubs, markets/shopping malls, and local government facilities.” The warning reflects the growing unpredictability across the region as Iranian-backed proxies continue to threaten Israel from multiple fronts.

The advisory also cautions that “increased regional tensions can cause airlines to cancel and/or curtail flights into and out of Israel,” urging that “persons may wish to consider leaving Israel while commercial flights are available.”

Specific ‘Do Not Travel’ Zones

The State Department now advises Americans to “Reconsider Travel To: Israel due to terrorism and civil unrest” and to the “West Bank due to terrorism and civil unrest.”

More starkly, it declares “Do Not Travel To: Gaza due to terrorism and armed conflict and within 11.3 km/7 miles of the Gaza Periphery.” It also warns against travel to “Northern Israel within 4 kilometers/2.5 miles of the Lebanese and Syrian borders due to continued military presence and activity.”

The embassy emphasizes that the situation inside Israel itself remains unpredictable. “The security situation in Israel, including Tel Aviv and Jerusalem is unpredictable, and U.S. citizens are reminded to remain vigilant and take appropriate steps to increase their security awareness as security incidents, including mortar and rocket fire and armed UAV

intrusions and missiles, can take place without warning.”

U.S. government employees are now restricted from personal travel within 11.3 kilometers of the Gaza demarcation line and within 4 kilometers of the Lebanese and Syrian borders. “Any official travel of U.S. government personnel within these areas requires approval from the Embassy’s security office,” the advisory states.

In northern Israel near Lebanon and Syria, the language is unequivocal: “Do not travel to this area for any reason.”

Gaza Declared Extremely Dangerous

The advisory reserves some of its strongest language for Gaza.

“Do not travel for any reason due to terrorism and armed conflict,” it states plainly. The U.S. government notes it is “unable to provide routine or emergency consular services to U.S. citizens in Gaza as U.S. government employees are prohibited from traveling there.”

“The security environment within Gaza and on its borders is extremely dangerous and volatile,” the report warns, noting that key crossings remain closed and that anyone entering should be prepared for “an indefinite stay” as borders “can close without advance notice and for long periods during times of unrest and armed conflict.”

In extraordinary language, the advisory even urges travelers to “draft a will and designate appropriate insurance beneficiaries and/or power of attorney” and to “leave DNA samples with your medical provider in case it is necessary for

your family to access them.”

Such warnings underscore the severity of the threat environment and the real possibility that hostilities could intensify further.

As Israel faces mounting threats from Iran and its regional proxies, and as the United States positions forces in the region in what many view as preparation for potential confrontation, the window for de-escalation appears to be narrowing.

In this critical hour, we must answer the call to pray fervently for America, for Israel and for the people of Iran who suffer under a radical and oppressive Islamic regime. Pray for wisdom for leaders, protection for civilians and for peace that can only come from the Lord in the midst of gathering storm clouds over the Middle East.

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