



Secretariat

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ST/IC/85/76
20 December 1985

INFORMATION CIRCULAR

To: Members of the Staff

From: The Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management

Subject: HOST COUNTRY TRAVEL REGULATIONS: PRIVATE TRAVEL
BY STAFF MEMBERS IN THE UNITED STATES

1. Information circular ST/IC/85/48 of 12 September 1985 informed all staff members of the exchange of notes between the Acting Permanent Representative of the United States and the Secretary-General resulting from the expressed intention of the United States Government to implement travel regulations for travel outside a 25-mile radius of Columbus Circle, New York City. Subsequent to that exchange of notes, the Secretary-General, on 17 September 1985, again urged the United States to reconsider its position on the issue. By a further note verbale of 13 December 1985, the United States informed the Secretary-General of further travel regulations. In a note verbale of 14 December 1985, the Secretary-General informed the United States that his position remains unchanged and applies fully also to the newly imposed travel regulations. The contents of this exchange of notes were set out in information circular ST/IC/85/74 of 17 December 1985. In the various discussions held by the representatives of the United Nations and the United States on the subject of these restrictions, each side has maintained its position.
2. Given the position of the United States, the Secretary-General, while reiterating his position, considered that a general travel authorization, including freedom to make travel arrangements through agencies of the staff member's choice, should be issued for private travel in respect of staff members of the affected nationalities. The United States, while not acceding to this, has indicated that it will give due consideration to granting broad travel authorizations in certain cases which will be individually notified. In other instances the United States intends to deal with travel authorizations on a case-by-case basis.
3. In view of the reply received from the United States, the Secretary-General now wishes to inform the staff of the situation thus created by the host country. While the Organization maintains its position of principle, individual applications

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for authorization for travel or booking of travel by common carrier and hotel reservations received by the host country from affected staff members cannot be considered to prejudice the United Nations legal position. These applications are to be considered a practical response to what the Secretary-General hopes is a temporary factual situation with a view to avoiding unnecessary hardships.

4. Application forms issued by the United States Mission will be available as of 23 December 1985 through the administrative offices of the various Secretariat units. These United States forms will contain a detailed description of the measures enacted by the host country and their application. The completed forms will be transmitted to room S-2011 by the individual staff members for onward transmission to the United States Mission to the United Nations. It is not required that the relevant papers be handed over or received personally from the United States Mission.
