

apply “in case of sudden emergency involving the loss of human life or the destruction of property”.

**§102.12 Protective services for survivors.**

(a) *Medical care and hospitalization.* The Foreign Service representative should lend any assistance possible (see §§ 102.10 and 102.11) in arranging for the best medical and hospital attention available for injured survivors of the accident. If a scheduled United States carrier is involved in an accident, the primary responsibility for providing medical care for passengers and crew rests with the airline, and in such situations the Foreign Service representative should assist the airline in every way that is feasible (see §§ 102.10 and 102.11).

(b) *Accommodation and onward transportation.* If a scheduled United States carrier is involved in an accident, primary responsibility for providing accommodation and onward transportation for passengers and crew rests with the airline, and in such situations the Foreign Service representative should assist the airline in every way that is feasible (see §§ 102.10 and 102.11). If the accident involves a private plane or non-scheduled carrier, he should assist passengers and members of the crew who do not require hospitalization in any way compatible with §§ 102.10 and 102.11 in obtaining appropriate comfortable accommodations accessible from the scene of the accident. If practicable, surviving passengers should remain in the vicinity of the accident until the United States Government investigating personnel can obtain from them all information pertaining to the accident. Surviving passengers leaving the vicinity should furnish addresses at which they can be reached later. The Foreign Service representative should assist the passengers, insofar as he can under the provision of §§ 102.10 and 102.11, in obtaining necessary clearances from local authorities and in getting onward transportation by the most expeditious means of common carrier transportation available. The surviving aircraft crew will be expected to remain in the vicinity of the accident until otherwise

instructed by the investigating personnel.

**§102.13 Protective services with respect to deceased victims of accidents.**

(a) *Interim disposition of remains.* Generally, local authorities will assume custody of the remains of deceased victims of the accident and consign them to a mortuary until final disposition can be made.

(b) *Identification of remains.* When necessary, the local Foreign Service post should assist in identifying the remains of United States citizens who are victims of the accident by requesting the Department to procure dental charts, passport application data and photographs, fingerprints, or other United States records.

(c) *Reports on deaths of United States citizens.* The local Foreign Service post shall report the deaths of United States citizens occurring in an aircraft accident in accordance with the procedure prescribed in §§ 72.1 to 72.8 of this chapter.

(d) *Disposition of remains.* When a scheduled United States air carrier meets with an accident, the United States airline concerned will usually transport the identifiable remains of victims of the accident to the place of final interment designated by the next of kin. If the Foreign Service post is requested, or finds it necessary, to dispose of identifiable remains, it shall follow the procedure prescribed in §§ 72.9 to 72.14 of this chapter. Where remains are unidentifiable, the local authorities may be expected to make final disposition of these remains locally in accordance with the health requirements of the country concerned, usually by common burial or by cremation, and without regard to the disposition desired by possible next of kin.

**§102.14 Salvage of mail and other property.**

(a) *Mail.* Article 3, sections 6 and 7, of the Air Mail Provisions annexed to the Universal Postal Union Convention, Paris, 1947, provide that the personnel who survive the aircraft accident shall, when possible, deliver the mail to the post office nearest the place of the accident or to the one best-qualified to

reforward the mail. If the aircraft personnel are unable to do this, the local post office concerned shall make every effort, without delay, to take delivery of the mail and to forward it to the offices of designation by the most rapid means, after determining the condition of the correspondence and reconditioning it if damaged. Most post offices are familiar with these provisions, but if in any case the mail is not being properly cared for, the local Foreign Service post should bring the proper procedure to the attention of the nearest post office.

(b) *Diplomatic pouches.* Immediately upon arriving at the scene of the accident, the Foreign Service representative should ascertain whether the aircraft was carrying a courier or diplomatic pouches. If a courier is found to be aboard, the same personal arrangements should be made for him as are made for other passengers (see §§102.10 to 102.13). An immediate search should also be made for whatever diplomatic pouches the courier may have been carrying and for any pouches that may have been carried as regular cargo. Usually, the cargo manifest will list diplomatic pouches carried as air freight or cargo. The passenger manifest normally will list the total number of pieces of luggage or pouches checked by a courier (if one is aboard), but since he usually carries his pouches with him into the cabin of the plane, the pouch invoices on his person or in his briefcase will offer positive proof of the number of pouches he had in his custody. If any are found, they should be cleared through appropriate government officials of the country and taken to the nearest United States Foreign Service office to await disposition instructions. If it is learned that the postal authorities have already recovered United States diplomatic pouches that may have been involved, these pouches should be obtained from the postal authorities and taken to the nearest United States Foreign Service office to await disposition instructions. A telegraphic message should be dispatched to the Department and to the regional courier office having jurisdiction over that area, giving a description of the pouches recovered. This description should include the office of

addressor and addressee and the classification indicator (C, A, or S). The Department and the regional courier office will coordinate instructions to the office for the disposition of these pouches.

(c) *Baggage, personal effects and cargo.* The Foreign Service representative should request the local authorities to arrange for the security storage and protection of such baggage, personal effects and cargo as is recoverable from the aircraft until the property can be released to its owners by local customs and accident investigating authorities, or by the courts. When released, the personal effects of United States citizens, who died in the accident, should be taken into possession and disposed of by the local Foreign Service post in accordance with the procedure prescribed in §§72.15 to 72.55 of this chapter.

#### **§ 102.15 Protection and preservation of wreckage.**

In so far as local law permits, the Foreign Service representative should see that arrangements are made (by the airline representative with the local authorities, if a scheduled carrier is involved) for the protection of the wrecked aircraft and its property contents against further damage, pilferage, and access by unauthorized persons, until the arrival of the accident investigation personnel. The prior removal of any of the wreckage or the contents of the aircraft should be prevented unless such action is necessitated by very compelling reasons, such as the need for treating the injured or for removing bodies, or when the wreckage constitutes a public hazard. When under the latter conditions the wreckage and contents of the aircraft must be moved or disturbed in any way, if possible, a record should be made or photographs taken showing the position and condition of the wreckage prior to disturbance. In the case of a private aircraft or non-scheduled carrier, protection should be arranged for the wrecked aircraft and its contents pending the receipt of information from the Department as to whether the Civil Aeronautics Board will investigate the case, and until