

This book should be stored in PDF format on all travelers and management's should be carried on each traveler. (In case the travelers lose access to electricity.)

5 Point Contingency Plan or GO-TWA:

G-Where am I Going.

O-Others I'm taking with me.

T-Time of my return.

W-What to do if I don't return.

A-Actions to take if I'm attacked or have to suddenly depart or Actions to take if you're attacked or suddenly have to depart.

Emergency Link Up Protocol:

This is the protocol used when flights get missed, airplanes diverted, or travelers get separated by customs officials to getting separated during a shootout or whatever.

This plan is based on management being actively involved in the tracking of the travelers, so they can coach the travelers through the process as the travelers will be stressed and not functioning clearly because of the travel to begin with.

A decision will have to be made for the lost travelers to continue on or to return back home. Missions that are normally are of short duration so to have the team wait several days in a hotel may not be a viable option.

Emergency Medical Evacuation Condition of patient

(Life, loss of limb or eye sight, or the condition is expected to get worse)

Can patient be moved or evacuated?

Point of contact at hospital or doctor to coordinate the transfer to the airport.

What kind of specialty equipment will be needed to facilitate the evacuation.

To facilitate the medical evacuation the travelers need to make contact with a ground ambulance service or at worse a taxi service.

Seriously don't think a critically injured or ill person can just jump on an airplane and fly as a normal passenger. 99% of the time they will be a specialty aircraft with a specially trained air crew handling the medical evacuation.

Would it be better for the patient if a couple of family members fly over to assist the patient, especially if the hospital stay will be several weeks?

What is the plan for when the traveling team is scheduled to return home?

At least 2 members need to remain to assist the patient return back home.

Hospitals with supporting services need to be identified on the return route just in case the patient has issues and needs emergency medical assistance. All parties need to be aware of the time change in dealing with each other as the travelers will be tired and very stressed during the medical emergency.

Illness or Death of a Traveler's Family:

Contact the traveler, normally the traveler will know before you do, but on the off chance contact them as quickly as possible.

Find out what the traveler wants to do, the family normally wants them back home, but if the traveler doesn't want to go back home then you need to dig deeper as to why don't they want to return home. This sounds like prying into people's personal affairs, but the family will go nuts thinking the organization is purposely keeping their family member from returning home. So either order the traveler back or be prepared for all the time consuming phone calls, emails and negative news media stories as the family looks for ways to punish the organization. Make sure the family and the traveler both know it's not the organization that is keeping them overseas.

This is why family liaisons are so important. This should also set off red flags for management as normal people with normal motives would want to return home in times of crisis. It could take days to reach the nearest airport so you have to have updates on the traveler's progress.

Many times the ground leadership is unwilling or unable to step up and lead this effort to get a traveler back home, this is why leader selection is so important. The worst case for everybody is the emotionally compromised traveler suddenly shows up at the airport only to have to wait several days to fly out, because no one was able to track their progress and make flight reservations for them. This means the traveler will be physically and mentally compromised and they will tell anybody that will listen to them about their troubles. They also could compromise the rest of the teams efforts and damage the reputation of the organization.

If this Emergency Travel Home Plan is handled badly then it could lead to a lawsuit to recover the flight costs, emotional duress, lodging, meals and legal fees if paid by the employee. So the management team needs to carefully document everything that happens as it happens to include who was notified and who made the decisions. Trying to rebuild the information afterwards looks like an attempted criminal conspiracy to a judge so document each event and response as it happens. If a key leader has to come back, be prepared to ABORT the entire mission or go to the Plan B alternative. Here again leadership is the key to the success of the mission.

Manpower Requirements in a third world country: Plan on two people accompanying the traveler back to the airport. This way the escort is not alone on the way back to your base of operations. Criminals like to stake out airports looking for easy targets and foreigners are easy targets. If the traveler is emotionally compromised an escort needs to travel with them back home. Do not give up a key leader or other important person to be the escort. Many times want-to-be leaders will use emergencies to gain control of the group by working to get various members out of the way, the traveling team needs to keep their existing leaders and use a worker bee to escort the emotionally compromised traveler back home.

Go Run and Hide, NOW!

When the code or signal is given or imminent danger is discovered all travelers go to the last major place they were at where they were safe. While in their last safe spot they regroup, contact management and plan for the next phase of the return trip or how to proceed forward.

Speed is your friend! Most likely the travelers will be dodging scouts or informants and the penalty for getting caught is death after months of brutal captivity. This is why you don't take physically unable people overseas as the situation can go bad very quickly. If a traveler is captured, switch up the plan as the captured traveler's phone, contingency plan micro book and the traveler themselves will give the enemy a clear idea of what the rest of the travelers are doing.

In the old days captured military personnel had to hold out long enough for their team to get away, but with cell phones, drones, the web and better torture techniques expect a few minutes head start.

Remember to get away! If the hostage takers call you and demand you give yourselves up, keep running, the fewer travelers captured, the more valuable the hostages are. They won't be as likely to scare the organization by executing a hostage, to show that they mean business. Hostages are only worth something when they are alive.

Do the Pop Up Method where you travel for a while then lay low and catch your breath and rest. This keeps you from blindly running into a trap.

If you have to travel then travel at night. Think alternate public places like police stations, hospital, friendly churches to help you escape.

Water will get really important after an hour on the run, this is normal and is part of the freeze, flight or fight response, with these responses the blood goes to the major organs causing severe thirst, seriously the most severe thirst you've ever had in your life.

This is why your Contingency Plan Micro Book is so important as it should have maps of the area you are operating in. In the Go, Run and Hide Now! situation, a small day pack works perfectly and you should have it with you anyway.

Plan on living out of it for 72 hours and recommended items include:

3-4 water bottles or a Camel Bak (Normally plan on one gallon of water per day).

Water purification tablets.

Lifestraw or filter system.

10 High Calorie Energy bars.

Emergency Pooh Kit.

A dark colored rain jacket or poncho.

Very small first aid kit (with aspirins for the headache you will get from being dehydrated.)

Small Quick Clot Kit.

Leather gloves.

Emergency cell phone charger.

Reflective space blanket.

Flashlight.

Small knife.

Hopefully you'll have an SOS satellite beacon with you.