



Professional Hunters' Association of South Africa

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TRAVEL ALERT

NO FIREARMS TRANSPORTED TO/FROM UK BY SAA

7 July 2017

Hunters and sport shooters travelling through Heathrow Airport (UK) need to make alternative arrangements when transporting sporting rifles to/from the UK.

No firearms will be checked in on South African Airway (SAA) flights to/from England as from 6 July 2017 due to regulatory and compliance issues.

Says Danie Barnardt, Head of Regulatory Compliance, QC & Training and Group Security Services at SAA: "This is a **temporary restriction**, due to an administrative issue with the UK Police on the renewal of SAA's License to Transport Firearms into Heathrow Airport."

"During SAA's standard process of renewal of our license, the UK Police Unit advised that due to the fact that SAA have changed Terminals since our last approval, the License is regarded as a new application and not a renewal," he adds. Hence, the problems currently experienced.

"Our operational team in London is working closely with the Police to resolve the License issue, however, until resolved, SAA is unable to transport firearms from or to London at present. Instead SAA Operations have been advised to reroute passengers on airlines that do transport firearms. An internal communique to all SAA operations areas have been done and until resolved said passengers would unfortunately need to use alternate airlines," says Barnardt.

He adds that it is not possible to advise how long the process will take, but that it is being addressed with urgency by SAA's London Station Management.

Regrettably, the Professional Hunters' Association of South Africa (PHASA) only learned about the above-mentioned arrangement on 7 July as no prior warning was issued by the SAA.

All hunting outfitters are urged to inform their clients accordingly.