The inside track

${f Take}$ precautionary steps to make trip pleasurable

(This is the first of three articles on How to Avoid Disappointments on Your Next Trip) You can't foresee every occurence on a trip but there every occurence on a trip but there are several precautionary steps you can take that would prevent many dis-

can take that would prevent many dis-appointments. Place your suitcases on your back. Place your suitcases on your back. Place your suitcase flights your packing for a trip abroad (no weight limit on domestic flights) in order not to exceed the weight limit of 44 pounds, or 20 kilos per person. If sur-cral persons travel together you may pool your baggage. You don't have to reconfirm your flight from your hometown (especially



Use lightweight suitcases. I had very good experiences with a medium-size suitcase combined with a valet bag, but make sure the bag is made of sturdy material and a strong

Lately people use suitcases with built-in wheels which you can pull in-stead of lifting. Good locks are impor-tant

If you wear prescription glasses carry at least one extra pair. If you lose or break your only pair, you are in a lot of trouble. If you use prescription drugs, take plenty along plus a prescription thut ask your dector to indicate the foreign brand or generic name). Never carry drugs in unlabeled containers

PUT YOUR PASSPORT in a plastic wallet and carry it with you, never in your suitcase. Aboard ship or in a hotel, lock it in a safe in case you don't want to carry it with you

Your money should be mostly in traveler's checks (denominations of \$10 and \$20 plus your reserve in larger bills), about \$10 a week in single cash dollar bills (in case you don't want to break a traveler's check) and about \$50 worth of local warmen within two per order from

Indicate on what dates you are in what city with mailing address, telephone numbers and cable addresses if your office has a telex, also telex numbers.

seeing, what plays are on, when the museums are closed. A good travel guide bought in time will provide most information.

when the formation. Your travel agent or the National Tourist Office of the respective country will provide maps, general information and special brochures If you do your homework you will get much more out of your trip, will avoid wasting time and getting frustrated. It is hard to foresee everything but try to limit the risks of something going wrong because you ddn't know ahead of time.

Part II will be about travel insurance and Part III about customs regulations.

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if you made your reservation through a travel agent) but it is a good idea to call the airline before you leave, just to make sure the flight is on schedule Arrive at least an hour before depar-

ture time at the airport ticket counter There are security checks, baggage has to be weighed, tags at-tached. Allow extra time if you want to park your car at the airport.

IF-YOU HAVE stopovers in Europe or other continents it is mandatory to reconfirm your flights as soon as pos-sible because the airline might sell your seat if they think you will not use it.

If you'll give them your telephone hotel room number; they will be able o advise you if the flight will be delayed.
Travel light Use interchangeable combinations (three pieces, blouses)

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currency which you can order from your bank or specialized companies (Perrera, Deak). If your are on a tour, the tour oper

ator or your travel agent will provide you with a "mailing list." Otherwise make it up yourself and leave a copy at home and another at your office so they can get in touch with you.

Don't wait until you get to your des-tination to find out what's worthwhile

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