

CHAPTER 107

PASSENGER MOVEMENT BY SHIP OR VESSEL

A. COMMERCIAL SHIP OR VESSEL TRANSPORTATION

1. Commercial Ship or Vessel Transportation. Travel by ship or vessel to and/or from the CONUS and OCONUS is not usually an authorized mode for transoceanic transportation. The normal means of accomplishing transoceanic travel is government or government-procured air. Specific authorization must be obtained for travel via ship or vessel IAW par. A.2. below and the regulations of the DOD Components.
2. Authorization to Use Commercial Ship or Vessel. The use of commercial ships or vessels must be authorized or approved in extenuating or emergency situations by the order-issuing authority. Members/employees may accompany their dependents that have medical validation, when they are authorized to use vessels. When transportation by vessel is authorized but a vessel of US registry cannot provide the transportation service required, transportation may be obtained aboard a vessel of foreign registry. (See the JFTR, par. U3665, U.S. Registry and the JTR, par. C3665, U.S. Registry Ship). Examples of extenuating/emergency situations are as follows:
 - a. The travel may be completed only by use of ship or vessel.
 - b. The travel can be performed more economically or efficiently by ship or vessel.
 - c. Cognizant command medical authority certifies the traveler as medically unable to use air transportation and ship or vessel travel is the only reasonable alternative.

B. USE OF COMMERCIAL FERRIES

1. Mixed Mode: When a member/employee travels between two permanent duty stations and transoceanic travel is involved but the member/employee travels partly by privately owned conveyance and partly by ocean-going car ferries (circuitously or otherwise), the member/employee is entitled to reimbursement as per the JFTR, par. U5116, PCS To, From, Or Between OCONUS Points and the JTR, par. C4558, POC Travel Involving a Car Ferry.
2. The travel orders must authorize travel by ocean-going car ferries. Documentation required by the JFTR, par. U3665-C/JTR par. C3665-C, U.S. Registry Ship Unavailable as to non-availability of US registered carriers must be provided to the traveler to justify reimbursement.

C. ARRANGING TRANSPORTATION VIA COMMERCIAL SHIP, VESSEL, AND/OR FERRY

Traffic management personnel arrange for and travelers use ships registered under US laws. Do not use premium-class accommodations. On ships with two or more accommodation classes, use the lowest class ship accommodations. When US ships are not available, use foreign flag ships that satisfy the criteria of the JFTR, par. U3665/JTR, par. C3665, U.S. Registry Ship. SDDC/AMSSD-IP normally must make arrangements for the TO except in cases where travel is from overseas to the CONUS, within overseas areas, or the use of the Alaska Marine Highway System. Local CTOs may be able to provide competitive prices for ocean movement.

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