MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
UNDER SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
COMMANDERS OF THE COMBATANT COMMANDS
ASSISTANT SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
DIRECTOR, OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION
INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
ASSISTANTS TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
DIRECTOR, ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT
DIRECTOR, PROGRAM ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION
DIRECTOR, NET ASSESSMENT
DIRECTOR, FORCE TRANSFORMATION
DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES
DIRECTORS OF THE DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: Space Available (Space-A) Travel for Dependents of Deployed Military Members

In recognition of the sustained efforts of the spouses and dependent children of our deployed military members, when the military member's deployment is for 120 consecutive days or more, spouses and dependent children are authorized to travel Space-A, unaccompanied in Category IV. Attachment 1 provides specific implementation rules and Attachment 2 is a sample authorization letter.

This change, effective immediately, supersedes my memo dated May 22, 2006, regarding Space-A travel for family members of deployed military members. This new policy guidance will be incorporated into DoD Regulation 4515.13-R, "Air Transportation Eligibility," which is under revision.

My point of contact is Lt Col Holmes, OADUSD (TP), 703-601-4461, extension 110.

Attachments:
As stated

Jack Bell
Unaccompanied Dependents of Deployed Military Members

1. Unaccompanied dependents of deployed military members, including Reserve and Guard personnel, when the deployment order is for at least 120 consecutive days, are authorized to travel space-available, unaccompanied in Category IV. This includes Navy personnel assigned to a deployed ship with Permanent Change of Station orders. This authorization is only valid for the duration of the deployment period of the military member.

2. Space-A travel is authorized to/from CONUS and OCONUS locations, between CONUS locations, and within/between OCONUS theaters. All travel will be on a noninterference (nonreimbursable) basis.

3. Eligible dependents may sign-up for Space-A travel no earlier than 10 days prior to the military member’s deployment. In addition, dependents are eligible to commence travel effective on the first day of military member’s deployment. Space-A travel must be complete by the last day of the military member’s deployment.

4. Eligible dependents must present to the air terminal personnel a verification letter signed by the member’s commander verifying the member’s deployment. The documentation must be in the dependents’ possession during travel. Furthermore, commanders or designated representatives should inform spouses and dependents of the following: “Space-A travel program is a privilege (not an entitlement). The military does not guarantee transportation to the final destination or return travel. The military is not responsible for providing lodging, ground transportation, meals or other incidental expenses incurred during Space-A travel if flights are delayed, diverted or canceled.”

Attachment 1