



DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
1010 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1010

November 7, 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS  
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF  
UNDER SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE  
CHIEFS OF THE MILITARY SERVICES  
COMMANDERS OF THE COMBATANT COMMANDS  
GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF  
DEFENSE  
DIRECTOR, ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT

SUBJECT: Directive-Type Memorandum (DTM) 08-046 - Precedence for Official and Unofficial Travel on Government Aircraft

Reference: (a) DoD Directive 4500.56, "DoD Policy on the Use of Government Aircraft and Air Travel," March 2, 1997

Purpose. This DTM revises outdated DoD policy contained in Reference (a) regarding required use travel by senior DoD officials on U.S. Government aircraft. This DTM is effective immediately and remains in effect until approval of a revision to Reference (a), which should be completed within 60 days.

Applicability. This DTM applies to OSD, the Military Departments, the Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Joint Staff, the Chiefs of the Military Services, the Combatant Commands, and all other organizational entities within the Department of Defense.

Policy. Travel for senior DoD officials on U.S. Government aircraft will be supported within a tiered system of precedence, subject to the availability of aircraft. Tier One officials are the highest priority travelers, and will use U.S. Government aircraft for both official and unofficial travel. Other travelers listed below may use U.S. Government aircraft for official travel only, subject to aircraft availability and on a not-to-interfere basis with higher tier travelers:

Tier One

- Secretary of Defense
- Deputy Secretary of Defense
- Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
- Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (unofficial travel authorized only when acting as Chairman)

Tier Two

- Chiefs of the Military Services
- Commander, International Security Assistance Force (US Only)
- Commander, Multi-National Forces – Iraq
- Commander, United States Forces Korea



- Commanders of the Combatant Commands
- Secretaries of the Military Departments
- Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics
- Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence
- Under Secretary of Defense for Policy
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Tier Three

- Chief, National Guard Bureau
- Commander, Air Combat Command
- Commander, Air Education and Training Command
- Commander, Air Force Materiel Command
- Commander, Air Force Space Command
- Commander, Air Mobility Command
- Commander, Army Materiel Command
- Commander, Forces Command
- Commander, Pacific Air Forces
- Commander, Training and Doctrine Command
- Commander, U.S. Air Forces in Europe
- Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command
- Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Europe
- Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet
- Director, Naval Nuclear Propulsion
- Vice Chiefs of the Military Services
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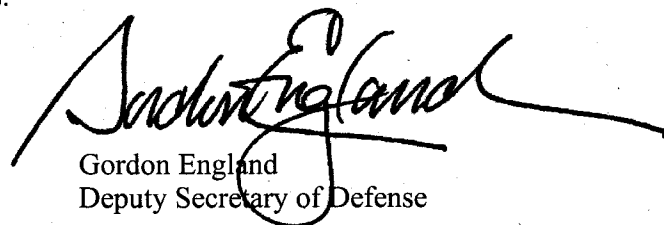
Tier Four

- Assistant Secretary for Health, Department of Health and Human Services
- Deputy Commanders of the Combatant Commands
- Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)
- Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness

Conflicts arising due to limited lift resources will be resolved based on the tier precedence of the travelers. Travelers within Tiers Two, Three, and Four have equal priority within their tiers. Resource conflicts between travelers within a tier will be resolved on a first-come, first-served basis.

Proposals for modifications or exceptions to this policy will be forwarded to the Deputy Secretary of Defense for approval.

Releasability. UNLIMITED. This DTM is approved for public release. Copies may be obtained through the Internet from the DoD Issuances Web Site at <http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives>.



Gordon England  
Deputy Secretary of Defense