



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY MATERIEL COMMAND
5001 EISENHOWER AVENUE, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22333 - 0001

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

AMCPE-C (301)

21 JUL 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Outside Continental United States (OCONUS) Tour Length Policy

1. References:

a. Memorandum, DOD, Force Management Policy, 26 Mar 97, subject: Five-Year Limitation on Foreign Employment.

b. DOD Civilian Personnel Manual, Chapter 301.4, 24 Aug 88, subject: Rotation of Employees from Foreign Areas.

2. The Department of Defense (DOD) established a policy in April 1966 limiting DOD civilian employment in foreign areas to 5 years. Reference 1.a. reaffirms the DOD policy on foreign area employment and serves as interim guidance pending the publication of the revised Civilian Personnel Manual (Ref 1.b.).

3. Consistent with current DOD guidance, it is the policy of the U.S. Army Materiel Command (AMC) that OCONUS (foreign area) assignments will be limited to 5 years. This includes both the initial tour and extension period. The AMC employees serving in OCONUS assignments who have already exceeded this time limit will not be extended beyond their current approved scheduled end-of-tour date.

4. Individual, case-by-case extensions beyond the 5-year limitation will be reserved for rare situations to provide short-term management flexibility based on local needs and other conditions. Extensions for employees' personal reasons will not normally exceed 6 months. Authority to approve OCONUS tour extensions is delegated to Commanders, major subordinate commands, LSE-Europe and LSE-Far East; and the Program Manager, Saudi Arabian National Guard (PM-SANG).

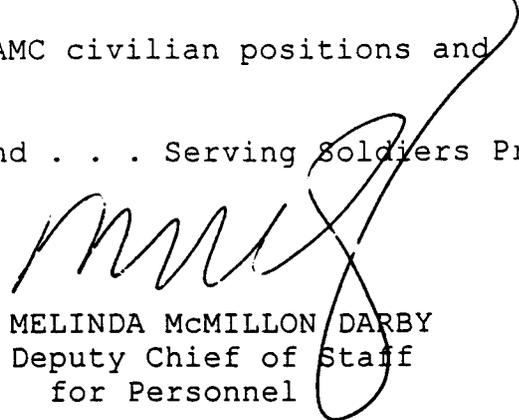
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5. Extension approving authorities will ensure that the total number of its extensions over 5 years do not exceed 25 percent of the work force subject to the 5-year rotation policy.

6. This policy applies to all AMC civilian positions and personnel in OCONUS.

7. AMC -- Your Readiness Command . . . Serving Soldiers Proudly!



MELINDA McMILLON DARBY
Deputy Chief of Staff
for Personnel

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