

**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 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 paragraph 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 shall be authorized or approved in extenuating or emergency situations by the order-issuing authority. Members may accompany their dependents who have medical validation, when they are authorized to use vessels. When transportation by vessel is authorized but a vessel of U.S. registry cannot provide the transportation service required, transportation may be obtained aboard a vessel of foreign registry. (See the JFTR, paragraph U3130F, U.S. Registry Ship Use and the JTR, paragraph C2205-F, U.S. Vessel Registry Use). Examples of extenuating/emergency situations are as follows:

- a. The mission may be completed only by use of ship or vessel.
- b. The mission can be performed more economically or efficiently by ship or vessel.
- c. Cognizant command medical authority certifies 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 travels between two permanent duty stations and transoceanic travel is involved but the member travels partly by privately owned conveyance and partly by ocean-going car ferries (circuitously or otherwise), the member is entitled to reimbursement as per the JFTR, paragraph U5116, PCS To, From, Or Between OCONUS Points and the JTR, paragraph C2156, Permanent Duty Travel Involving Ocean-Going Car Ferries.

2. Non-U.S. Flag Carriers. Travel orders must authorize travel by ocean-going car ferries. The certificate or memorandum required by the JFTR, paragraph U3125, Commercial Ship Transportation and JTR, paragraph C2205, Commercial Ship Transportation as to non-availability of U.S. registered carriers must be attached to the member's voucher for reimbursement.

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

Traffic management personnel arrange for, and travelers, use ships registered under U.S. laws. Do not use premium-class accommodations. On ships with two or more accommodation classes, use the lowest class ship accommodations. Use foreign flag ships that satisfy JFTR paragraph U3130, Commercial Vessel Transportation and the JTR paragraph 2205, Commercial Vessel Transportation criteria when U.S. ships are not available. MTMC/MTPP-AS normally shall make arrangements for the TO except in cases where travel is from overseas to 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.