



PERSONNEL AND  
READINESS

UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000

FEB 4 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDER, UNITED STATES PACIFIC COMMAND

SUBJECT: Policy Guidance for Provision of Medical Care to Department of Defense  
Civilian Employees Injured or Wounded While Forward Deployed in  
Support of Hostilities

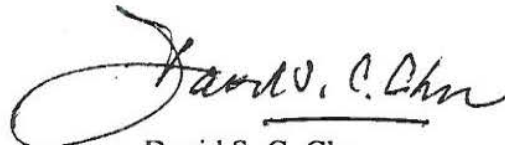
You requested my concurrence that Department of Defense (DoD) civilian personnel serving in the Operation Enduring Freedom-Philippines (OEF-P) Joint Operating Area (JOA) be eligible for medical evacuation, health treatment, and services in military treatment facilities (MTFs) at the same level and scope provided to Military personnel and DoD civilians in Iraq and Afghanistan, as authorized by the attached Deputy Secretary of Defense memorandum, dated September 24, 2007 (attached).

As you pointed out in your memorandum, there are provisions that DoD civilian employees who become ill, contract diseases, or are injured or wounded while forward deployed in support of U.S. Military Forces engaged in hostilities are eligible for medical evacuation and health care treatment and services in MTFs at the same level and scope provided to Military personnel. While there is no statutory, regulatory, or policy authority for providing TRICARE private sector care or care in medical facilities of the Veterans Administration to DoD civilian personnel who become ill, contract diseases, or are injured or wounded while forward deployed in support of U.S. Military Forces engaged in hostilities, they may obtain care in such cases in private sector medical facilities under the Department of Labor Office of Workers' Compensation Programs. Under the War Powers Resolution, the President has reported to the Congress that U.S. Forces in Iraq and Afghanistan are engaged in hostilities, but he has not done so for our forces in the OEF-P JOA.

I am authorized, under compelling circumstances, to approve eligibility for care in MTFs for other DoD civilian employees overseas. If a need arises, I will consider approving MTF care on an individual basis for such civilian employees who become ill,



contract diseases, or are injured or wounded while supporting operational missions overseas. My point of contact for this issue is Mr. Michael O'Bar, TRICARE Operations at (703) 681-0039.



David S. C. Chu

Attachment:  
As stated

cc:

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs)  
Assistant Secretary of the Army (Manpower and Reserve Affairs)  
Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Manpower and Reserve Affairs)  
Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Manpower and Reserve Affairs)  
Surgeon General of the Army  
Surgeon General of the Navy  
Surgeon General of the Air Force  
Deputy Director, TRICARE Management Activity  
Director, TRICARE Regional Office – North  
Director, TRICARE Regional Office – South  
Director, TRICARE Regional office – West