

Voipe



The Comptroller General
of the United States

Washington, D.C. 20548

Decision

Matter of: Charles M. Ford
File: B-232179
Date: October 6, 1989

DECISION

The issue in this case is whether a trip taken in July 1988 by Mr. Ford, a civilian employee of the Department of the Army, qualifies for reimbursement as tour renewal agreement travel.^{1/} Mr. Ford completed a 24-month tour of duty in Turkey in January 1988, transferred to a new position in Frankfurt, Germany, in March 1988, and requested that his tour renewal agreement travel be delayed until July 1988. Although the agency initially agreed to the delay in his renewal agreement travel, the agency's personnel office subsequently denied Mr. Ford reimbursement for the trip he performed in July 1988. The personnel office contends that in connection with a permanent change of duty station, the employee must complete tour renewal agreement travel before reporting to duty at the new station or wait until the 12-month service agreement has been completed.

Under the statute and regulations governing renewal agreement travel and transportation expenses, the employee must have completed the period of service or tour of duty at the overseas post and entered into a new agreement for another period of service at the same or another overseas post.^{2/} In this case, Mr. Ford met those requirements and thus was entitled to renewal agreement travel. Dick D. Hendricks, B-205137, May 18, 1982.

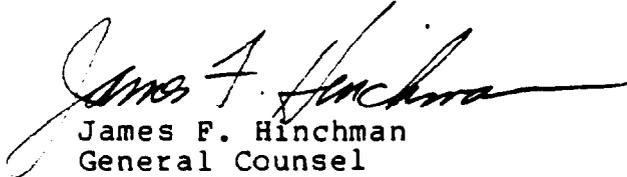
1/ The request was submitted by Lieutenant Colonel Daniel Waldo, Deputy Commander, Europe Division, Corps of Engineers, Department of the Army.

2/ See 5 U.S.C. § 5728(a) (1982); Federal Travel Regulations (FTR), para. 2-1.5h(1) (Supp. 7, July 15, 1983), incorp. by ref., 41 C.F.R. § 101-7.003 (1988); and the Joint Travel Regulations, vol. 2, para. C4151 (Change No. 226, Aug. 1, 1984).

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While tour renewal agreement travel is ordinarily performed between tours of duty outside the continental United States, our decisions have allowed reimbursement where such travel is delayed for several months. Dick D. Hendricks, B-205137, supra, at 5-6.

Accordingly, the agency may reimburse Mr. Ford for those travel expenses authorized for tour renewal agreement travel in connection with his July 1988 trip and substitute home leave for any annual leave taken. Lagatta and Shaffer, B-226306, May 12, 1988.


James F. Hinchman
General Counsel