



ACQUISITION, TECHNOLOGY AND LOGISTICS

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

3010 DEFENSE PENTAGON WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3010

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

2004 AUG 30 PM 5:19

DEP SEC DER HAS SEEN 131/PLD AUG 31 2004

TO CPO M50 AL ATL

ACTION MEMO

August 30, 2004, 10:00 A.M.

FOR: SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

DepSec Action \_\_\_\_\_

FROM: Mr. Michael W. Wynne, Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology & Logistics)

SUBJECT: Airlift Exception to Policy Request

- I request an exception to policy to transport "Sally", an Iraqi national from Iraq, to the US on a DoD aircraft. (TAB A)
- "Sally", whose identity is close-hold due to threats to her life, is providing high value translation support to U.S. Multinational Forces, as documented at TAB B. It is a DoD direct interest to aid and protect certain Iraqis, such as "Sally," who provide support that saves American lives, and whose own lives are in danger as a result.
- Private US donors will be responsible for "Sally's" living expenses while in the CONUS. The transportation will be at no cost to the DoD. She will be escorted by a US Service member to ensure her safe and coordinated transportation to CONUS. While the intent is to terminate the DoD mission upon the safe delivery of "Sally" to appropriate designated sponsors, it is possible that circumstances may dictate "Sally's" return to Iraq. This exception to policy will include this return if necessary.
- Since this is a request for an exception to a transportation directive, I make this request on behalf of OSD-Policy. An exception to policy can be made in this case under the provisions of DoD Directive 4515.13-R, Chapter 10. (TAB C) Approval would authorize "Sally" space available transportation on a non-interference, no-cost basis. The CONUS aerial port of embarkation will be determined by the theater airlift planners and the project POC.

RECOMMENDATION: Sign attached memorandum (TAB A).

COORDINATION: OSD-Policy-NESA, GC (TAB D)

Prepared by: (b)(6) OADUSD (TP), (b)(6)

TSA SD	(b)(6)
SA DSD	
SRMA DSD	
EXEC SEC	

31

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OSD 12906-04

09-M-0730

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# TAB A



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

31 AUG 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR ACTING UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE,  
ACQUISITION, TECHNOLOGY AND LOGISTICS

SUBJECT: Space Available Travel for "Sally"

This responds to your memorandum, written on behalf of USD-Policy, requesting support for the transportation of "Sally" and a military escort from Iraq to CONUS on DoD aircraft. Under the provisions of DoD Directive 4515.13-R, Chapter 10, I approve the transportation of these individuals only on a non-interference, space available basis and at no cost to the DoD. Should situations require, a return flight to Iraq under the same conditions is approved.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Paul Wolfowitz". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large loop at the end.

**TAB B**

AUG-12-2004 11:22

7036976893

7036976893

P. 03



A COMPANY, 31TH PSYCHOLOGICAL OPERATIONS BATTALION (AIRBORNE)  
AR RAMADI, IRAQ  
APO, AE 09346



AOCP-POG-NB-A

5 JULY 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Letter of Reference for [REDACTED]

1. [REDACTED] has been serving as an interpreter for my unit in the Al Anbar Province of Iraq for the last two months. During this time she has proven to be an exceptionally talented, dedicated, and loyal employee. Her primary duty is to serve as my personal interpreter. In this capacity she is often placed in direct contact with Iraqi citizens that, given different circumstances, would kill her for her cooperation with coalition forces. Since the scope of her duties includes traveling thousands of miles each month through hostile territory during Psychological Operations and logistical missions, her personal safety is constantly at risk. In light of the reprisal murders and other violence directed toward local national employees of the coalition forces, [REDACTED] performance and devotion to duty is remarkable.

2. As an Iraqi woman, [REDACTED] has battled her entire life for what the coalition is now attempting to develop in Iraq; equal rights under the law in a democratic society. Because of her beliefs and her dedication to the mission of the coalition, her family and anti-coalition force elements have threatened [REDACTED] life. Additionally, she was beaten numerous times, divorced, and had her children forcibly removed from her custody when she refused to quit working for the coalition. Finally, as a result of her beliefs, [REDACTED] father placed a \$5,000 reward for her life as a means of regaining the family sense of honor.

3. [REDACTED] is an exemplary employee whose selfless service has undoubtedly saved numerous American and Iraq lives. Her continued service as an interpreter after my unit rotates will benefit any unit that is fortunate enough to gain her services. It is my sincere belief that she deserves the opportunity to continue to serve the United States military and coalition forces as a legal resident and eventually as a citizen of the United States. I recommend her for a resident Visa to the United States immediately. If she is not given a Visa, it is probable that [REDACTED] will be killed for her support of the coalition.

4. The point of contact for this reference is the undersigned at [REDACTED] (b)(6) or

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

Commanding

(b)(6) CIV, OSD

**From:** (b)(6) CIV, OSD  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 18, 2004 11:27 AM  
**To:** (b)(6)  
**Cc:** (b)(6) CIV, OSD  
**Subject:** Have you seen this story? Is there anything we can do for her?

**Classification: UNCLASSIFIED**



**Iraqi translator's service to Coalition comes at high cost**

**Submitted by:** 1st Marine Division

**Story by:** (b)(6)

**Story Identification**

**#:** 200471555456

**AL ANBAR PROVINCE, Iraq(July 11, 2004) --** Sally's children were taken away from her more than six months ago. Her husband beat her. Her brother threatened her life while holding a gun to her head. Her own father contracted her death with a \$5,000 reward.

Sally, an Iraqi translator working with Coalition Forces, lost everything by working to help Americans rebuild Iraq. Still, she feels her service with Americans is the right thing for her country

"I lost everything I have, but I have gained so much," Sally said. "If I had to do it over again I would. I help the Americans, help my people."

Sally masks her real identity. She agreed to be interviewed on the condition her location and identity remained hidden. She is still a wanted woman with a price on her head.

Sally, 28, was born in Baghdad to a wealthy family. Her Turkish Christian mother died giving birth to her. Her Muslim father is from Fallujah had ties in Iraqi oil. She wanted for little as a child, even under the repressive regime of Saddam Hussein.

Her father had another wife who raised Sally as her own child.

She was educated at a private Catholic school from the age of five until she was 12, learning English and several other languages. She grew up with a cross-cultural experience unknown to most Iraqis.

"Since my mother was Christian, and my father was Muslim, I studied the bible during the week and went the Mosque every Friday to study the Koran," Sally explained.

Still, there was a parochial and detached feeling to her formative years. She visited her family on the weekends and one month of the year. When she did visit her family, Sally explained that women had little power and could not make any choices of her own.

"My father... I can't even eat at the same table and eat with him," she said. "I must always say yes to everything."

The day she graduated from her Catholic school her father told her something that would change her life.

"I was thirteen years old," Sally said. "I will never forget this... he sits beside me and says, 'Honey, you must marry.'"

Three days later she was married to her fathers' friend, 27-years her senior.

"He wasn't mean at first, and he wasn't nice," she said. "He looked like my father."

She gave birth to her first son at 14 and continued studying engineering in Baghdad. Her family grew over the years to include three more children. It was a life not unlike many for Iraqi women.

"I liked my husband because he let me go to school," she said. "I was a child, I didn't know any better. All my life I was with one guy and I didn't know if he was good, I didn't know if he was bad. He was the only thing I knew. He taught me what to think."

Sally's family did not like Americans and when rumors of a war began circulating last year, her family decided to leave for Turkey.

Still, Sally stayed.

"I love my home," she explained. "I told them I would never leave and they left without me."

Early one morning when the war started, she heard yelling outside her home. Americans in a humvee were talking to one of her neighbors.

"They were speaking English and trying to talk to a man," she said. "They were going to arrest him. So I went outside to help him and talked to the Americans for the man. The Americans were very appreciative and asked me for a job. I told them they know where I live if they ever need my help."

She thought being a translator would be a great way to help out her country. She took an English test and was accepted to become a translator.

Sally's decision, though, was unpopular with her Iraqi neighbors.

"My neighbors found out that I was helping the Americans and they beat my children," she said. "They threw rocks at my daughter and broke both arms on my son. They told me to watch

out or I will be killed."

It wasn't just her neighbors who harbored hatred for Sally's assistance to the Coalition. Her family was infuriated.

"When my family came home from Turkey and found out, they told me to that I would be killed," she said. "They called me horrible names like 'bitch' and 'whore.' My brother put a pistol to my head and threatened to kill me."

She lived only because her mother intervened. But it wasn't a measure of love, but family honor.

"My mother stopped him by saying, she is not your real sister, and it's not your honor to kill her," she recalled. "She is not even my daughter, her real mother died when she was born."

Sally fled her home and took residence with her husband and children in Baghdad's Green Zone. She continued to help the Americans, translating at checkpoints.

Her family began looking for her to kill her for betraying them.

"While I was at work, my brother found my husband and told him that I will kill your wife if I find out she is working with the Coalition Forces," she said. "He lied for me and told them that I was not."

Her life continued to crumble. She found her car missing and asked her husband if he knew what happened

"I asked him about it and he said someone stole it," Sally said. "I could not believe it. I asked who would steal? The Americans? The Green Zone was such a safe neighborhood. There was nowhere for it to go."

Her husband became enraged. He flew into a tirade

"He messed up my face and body," she said. "He had such an angry face."

The next morning he apologized to her and told her to go to work because I was going to be late. Her face was beaten, black and blue. She tried to hide her husband's crime with sunglasses and a hat.

Still, her ruse didn't work. Another translator saw the marks.

"I lied and said I did it to myself," she said.

She then told him that her car was also stolen. Then her world fell apart.

"He said, 'your husband divorced you a month ago and took your car, your money and your apartment and gave it to your best friend because you are working with Americans,'" she recalled. "So I went back to my apartment and found my car in the garage and went inside."

She found her best friend inside with her husband.

"I was so angry I yelled," she said. "I went crazy. I took my keys and took off."

She drove to a nearby restaurant and parked thinking about what just happened.

"I was sitting there in the parking lot and I saw him walking up to me," she said. "I was relieved I thought he was going to apologize. He told me to unroll the window."

When she did, he picked up a nearby rock and repeatedly hit her face. She awoke in a hospital two days later. An Army captain arrested her husband, but she insisted on finding him.

"I saw him cry," she said. "Iraqi men never cry. I was trying to get him out. I didn't care what anyone said."

She was warned to leave him in jail, that he would kill her. She insisted on his release.

"After 15 minutes of getting out the jail he beat me up and put me in his car and took me to the apartment and locked me in the bathroom for three-to-four days with no food," Sally said. "I begged for water. He said 'No, I am ashamed of you. You are an interpreter, that's why I divorced you.'"

Her husband threatened to tell her family where she was, sealing her death sentence.

She escaped only because of her oldest son.

"My older son, who is 13, opened the bathroom door and said, 'Mom you need to run away,'" she recalled. "You cannot stay here. They will kill you. Mom, they will kill you!"

Sally said she did not want to leave her children behind.

"He pushed me out the door and I ran," she said. "I don't know where, but I ran."

She left with nothing but the clothes she was wearing, a picture of her kids and a stuffed tiger her son slept with at night. It was the last time she saw her children.

She returned to work with Coalition Forces.

(b)(6) remembers seeing her in the chow hall days after escaping.

"She was directed by her command to seek medical attention for her wounds," (b)(6) said. "But instead she went to the chow hall. She got up to get something and all of a sudden she collapsed. The place when completely silent."

She spent three weeks recovering in a hospital.

When she returned to work, she opened up an e-mail from her friend to find out there was a price on her head. A poster was being distributed; \$5,000 wanted dead or alive. It was offered by her father.

"He is trying to pay my friends for information on where I am," Sally said. "If I go to any Arab country, my father would find me."

Still, she doesn't fear the warrant.

"What can they take from me?" she asked. "I already have lost everything. I see the dead all the time. One of my best friends and three other interpreters were killed - beaten to death - by a knife because they were working with Coalition Forces."

Her commitment has earned praises from Marines.

"Sally risks her life to be here," Curl said. "Many translators we have here have had their lives threatened and their families' lives threatened. She goes on convoys, combat patrols, and they go through the same attacks we do."

Sally understands the risk, but still continues to work with Americans because of her love for the job.

"I love my job, I am helping out my people," she explained. "I am doing something for my country. This is the first time in my life I choose what I want in my life. My father would never let me choose. Now I am fighting for what I believe in."

Her family now is the circle of Marines and soldiers with whom she works. She hasn't heard from her children, but believes they are still with their father. Her worry gnaws at her.

"I can't sleep because I think well maybe my kids are tired," Sally said. "Why should I be able to sleep? I can't eat because I think maybe somewhere my kids are hungry. I can't enjoy a nice hot shower because I think maybe they are dirty. I can't laugh because maybe my kids are sad."

Sally hopes for a better future, possibly in the United States. She's had offers to help her get settled. She's got a passport and recommendations, but no visa. She even aspires to serve in the U.S. Armed Forces.

"The Army taught me how to march, how to shoot a pistol and martial arts," she said. "I want to live in America. I want to become a lieutenant for the Army. I want to go airborne."

The risks of military service, she said, are already known.

"Us translators, we are at great risks," Sally explained. "We just want help. I will go to America. I will still work for the military. I just want this chance."

However, she hasn't forsaken her commitment to her children.

"If I do get to go to America, I promise I will make it back," she said. "It might take me 10 years, but I will be back to find my kids."

For now, though, Sally continues her work, serving as the link between Marines and Iraqis, bridging communication and cultural gaps, even as she seeks to heal her own life's wounds.

"You (soldiers and Marines) come from America to help my country," Sally said. "I must help you help my people. I see these soldiers that lose their lives for Iraqis. They come into our country and die for us. We must appreciate these guys. I appreciate the Army and Marines. I love them."

**TAB C**

**C10. CHAPTER 10**  
**SPECIAL ACTIONS AND PROCEDURES**

**C10.1. GENERAL**

This Chapter identifies categories of traffic not otherwise included in this Regulation that require approval, as specified below, before travel or transportation and prescribes actions to be taken in connection with requests for exceptions to transportation policy. Further, it establishes procedures for submission of such requests.

**C10.2. REQUESTS FOR EXCEPTIONS TO POLICY**

All requests submitted for consideration for an exception to policy shall do the following:

C10.2.1. Fully justify the need for air transportation to include the purpose of travel or reason for the shipment of cargo.

C10.2.2. Explain why commercial transportation resources are not being used, or do not suffice, or certify their nonavailability.

C10.2.3. Contain sufficient detail to enable evaluation and a proper determination, including a statement explaining why furnishing transportation is of interest to, and how it will benefit, the DoD Component concerned.

C10.2.4. Include a statement as to whether movement is to be "space required (reimbursable)," "noninterference (reimbursable)," or "noninterference (nonreimbursable)." If it is reimbursable, show the appropriation or account chargeable, or the name and address of the organization or individual responsible for reimbursement on a direct-billing basis.

C10.2.5. Maintain consistency and uniformity in applying transportation policy. Exceptions shall be considered for approval only when very unusual circumstances indicate that adherence to policy in a particular case would be contrary to the best interests of the DoD Component concerned. When a commander can justify a request, he or she should forward it through channels with full justification and all information necessary to permit a decision. A commander shall not make an airlift commitment before obtaining approval.

### **C10.3. APPROVAL ACTIONS**

All approval actions, orders, or documents shall specify approved travel authorizations as "space required (reimbursable)," "noninterference (reimbursable)," or "noninterference (nonreimbursable)." If an approval for noninterference (nonreimbursable) movement of passengers is involved, the category of space available travel under Chapter 6, above, in which passengers shall move shall be cited.

### **C10.4. THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE OR DESIGNEES**

These officials approve travel of the following:

C10.4.1. Government officials of other Executive Departments or Agencies of the judicial branch, or of the legislative branch. The request shall be screened by the Head of the Agency to which the official is attached. If approved, the request shall be forwarded to the Secretary of Defense for disposition. When travel is through a mission operated by an activity financed through the DBOF-T, approval actions and orders must specify the Government Agency or individual responsible for reimbursement and the applicable tariff rate.

C10.4.2. Official travel of family members of senior DoD officials of the OSD, Defense Agencies, and activities administratively supported by the OSD, of the other Executive Departments or Agencies, of the judicial branch, or of the legislative branch, when there is an unquestionably official function in which the family member is actually to participate in an official capacity, or such travel is deemed in the national interest because of a diplomatic or public relations benefit to the United States. When travel is through a mission operated by an activity financed through the DBOF-T, approval actions and orders must specify the Governmental Agency or individual responsible for reimbursement and the applicable tariff.

C10.4.3. Members and employees of the Congress when the request for travel is submitted in writing to the Secretary of Defense over the signature of the chairman of the Congressional committee on which the member or employee serves and states that the purpose of travel is of primary interest to the Department of Defense and that provisions of law authorize the expenditure by the Department of Defense.

C10.4.4. Members and employees of the Congress when travel is of official concern to the Congress and the request shows the appropriation fund chargeable, or other clear indication of the method by which reimbursement is to be made, if U.S. commercial carriers cannot meet the official requirements.

C10.4.5. U.S. ambassadors in their country or countries of accreditation on a reimbursable basis when the Secretary of State determines that internal security problems and the trip proposed warrant this service. Other members of the ambassadorial party may be transported on Secretary of State determination that they would have been eligible for Government expense travel if safe accommodations were available and that funds are available for this purpose. Because various problems are associated with the limited resources involved in the implementation of this category, only unusual cases shall be considered.

C10.4.6. Foreign officials invited by the Secretary of Defense, or designee (see DoD Directive 7250.13, reference (tt)).

C10.4.7. Cargo of other U.S. Government Agencies or non-U.S. Government cargo not otherwise approved under section C10.5., below.

C10.4.8. All other personnel or cargo when such transportation is determined to be in the overall official DoD interest and not otherwise approved under section C10.5., below.

C10.5. MILITARY DEPARTMENT SECRETARIES, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF, THE CHIEFS OF STAFF OF THE ARMY AND THE AIR FORCE, THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS, AND THE COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

C10.5.1. These officials approve the following:

C10.5.1.1. Except for the situations specified in section 10.4., above, requests for transportation when submitted in accordance with section C10.2., above, and such transportation is primarily of official interest to the DoD Component concerned.

C10.5.1.2. Family member travel as outlined in paragraph C10.4.2., above for personnel assigned to the DoD Component concerned. See Appendix 2 for a list of general/flag officers designated to approve family travel.

**TAB D**

## COORDINATION

SUBJECT: Space Available Travel, "Sally"

<u>ORG</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>	<u>DATE</u>
OGC	<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #cccccc; width: 100px; height: 40px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">(b)(6)</div>	Concur as edited (incorporated)	8/27/04
OSD Policy (NESA)		Concur	8/15/04