



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
18TH COMBAT SUSTAINMENT SUPPORT BATTALION
UNIT 28130
APO AE 09114

AETS-SBD-CH

1 March 2017

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Separate Rations (BAS) based on Religious Dietary Requirements

1. References.

A. Department of Defense Instruction Number 1300.17, Accommodation of Religious Practices Within the Military Services, January 22, 2014

B. Army Regulation 165-1, Army Chaplain Corps Activities, 23 June 2015

C. Army Regulation 600-20, Army Command Policy, 6 November 2014

2. DODI 1300.17, Accommodations of Religious Practices Within the Military Services, provides guidance for service members and their commanders in regard to religious accommodation. Within DODI 1300.17 4.a. it states, "The DOD places a high value on the rights of members of the Military Services to observe the tenets of their respective religions." Furthermore 4.e stipulates, "Requests for religious accommodations will be resolved in a timely manner and will be approved when accommodation would not adversely affect mission accomplishment..."

3. Hindu service members adhere to religious dietary restrictions that avoid beef as they see cows as a holy and sacred animals providing life and sustaining milk. In Hindu practice, forbidden food items include beef and all its products with the exception of dairy, animals improperly slaughtered (i.e. not bled to death), carnivorous animals, dead meat, and any food contaminated with any of these products. This also includes using the same utensils to prepare or serve the food.

4. Based upon religious convictions and Hindu dietary laws according to Bhagavad Gita, SGT Dipesh Dongol is requesting Basic Allowance for Sustenance (BAS) to meet dietary food preparation needs since the dining facility is unable to do so. I recommend this accommodation be afforded this Service Member in support of religious accommodation in accordance with DODI 1300.17. This recommendation includes any necessary per diem, in whole or in part, to support the Service Member while on mission and the dining facility is unable to prepare meals in accordance with Hindu dietary custom.

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5. The point of contact for this memorandum is the undersigned at +49 1515-297-4351, andrew.e.calvert.mil@mail.mil.



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Battalion Chaplain