



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Railroad
Administration**

1120 Vermont Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

FEB 4 2003

Mr. Douglas Anderson
Deputy Director
Deployment Operation Center
Department of the Army
Military Traffic Management Command
661 Sheppard Place
Fort Eustis, Virginia 23604-1644

Dear Mr. Anderson:

This is in response to your January 27, 2000, letter requesting an approval for transportation of military equipment including cargo tanks containing flammable and combustible liquids in flatcar and trailer-on-flat (TOFC) service.

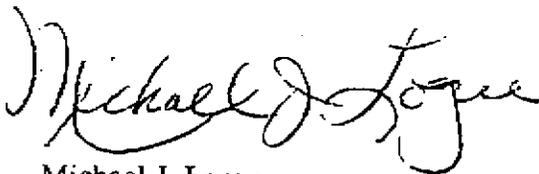
In accordance with 49 CFR 174.61 and 174.63(a) the Department of Defense (DOD) is authorized to transport model M978 HEMTT tankers (2500 gallon capacity), M969A2 cargo tanks (semi-trailer cargo tankers), five-ton trucks (500 and 600 gallon capacity fuel pods), and DOD tactical vehicles in flatcar and TOFC service under the following conditions:

1. Shipments are authorized between military installations in the continental United States or points of departure, and return;
2. Shipments may be made at any time during the period beginning March 1, 2003, and ending February 28, 2005;
3. All manway closures on the cargo tanks are to be closed and secured; and all valves and other closures in liquid discharge systems are to be closed and free of leaks;
4. Sufficient outage requirements will be preserved to prevent leakage from or distortion of such tank by expansion of the contents due to rise in temperature during transit;
5. DOD specification M978 tank trucks and M969A2 cargo tanks shall be loaded,

blocked, braced, and tied down in accordance with Department of the Army's Technical Manual, TM 55-2320-279-14 and MTCTEA Pamphlet 55-19;

6. Handbrakes of each vehicle shall be set with the hand lever wired or blocked; and
7. Each railcar used to transport DOD tank trucks shall be equipped with an operative cushioning system that meets the requirements of the Association of American Railroads Specification M-921.
8. Prior to shipments, you must provide this office with notification of the movement by contacting Raymond Kasey at 202-493-6233.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Logue
Deputy Associate Administrator
for Safety Compliance and
Program Implementation

C E Radford
2 pages

from Ray Kasey