

approval by the Office of Management and Budget. The Office of Program Services within the Department of the Treasury is soliciting comments concerning the Survey of Foreign Portfolio Investment in the United States as of March 31, 2000.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before June 6, 1999 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Dwight Wolkow, Administrator, International Portfolio Investment Data Systems, Department of the Treasury, Room 5205, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington DC 20220.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the forms and instructions should be directed to Dwight Wolkow, Administrator, International Portfolio Investment Data Systems at the above address, or by faxing (202) 622-7448, or by calling (202) 622-1276.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Survey of Foreign Portfolio Investment in the United States as of March 31, 2000.

OMB Number: 1505-0123.

Abstract: These forms are used to conduct periodic surveys of foreign portfolio ownership of U.S. long-term securities. These data are used by the U.S. Government in the formulation of international and financial policies and for the computation of the U.S. balance of payments and international investment position. Surveys of foreign portfolio investment in the United States are required to be conducted at least once every five years by the International Investment and Trade in Services Survey Act (22 U.S.C. 3101 *et seq.*). The last such survey was conducted as of December 31, 1994. The next survey will be held as of March 31, 2000, to avoid placing a reporting burden on respondents which coincides with Y2K-related efforts during the last half of 1999.

Current Actions: Exemption levels will be raised from \$10 million to \$20 million, and the number of data items will be reduced. Data will be collected primarily from custodians of securities, and from issuers of securities only when foreigners have registered their foreign holdings directly with the U.S. securities issuer and do not use a U.S.-based custodian to safekeep the securities.

Type of Review: Reinstatement with change.

Affected Public: Business/Financial Institutions.

Forms Survey of Foreign Portfolio Investment in the United States (1505-0123).

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,200.

Estimated Average Time per Respondent: 50 hours, but this will vary widely from respondent to respondent. It is estimated that all respondents will require on average a minimum of 16 hours to understand the survey requirements and gather the information necessary to determine their filing status. For issuers of securities that have data to report and are not custodians, the estimate is 40 hours total. For custodians of securities, the estimate is a total of 160 hours on average, but this figure will vary widely for individual custodians.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 60,000 hours.

Frequency of Response: Approximately once every five years.

Request for Comments

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. The public is invited to submit written comments concerning: whether the Survey is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Office, including whether the information collected has practical uses; the accuracy of the above burden estimates; ways to enhance the quality, usefulness and clarity of the information to be collected; ways to minimize the reporting and/or record keeping burdens on respondents, including the use of information technologies to automate the collection of the data; and estimates of capital or start-up costs of operation, maintenance and purchases of services to provide information.

Dwight Wolkow,

Administrator, International Portfolio Investment Data Systems.

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Privacy Act of 1974; New System of Records—Center for Minority Veterans Management Information System—VA (95VAOOM)

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice, new system of records.

SUMMARY: The Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 522a(e)(4)) requires that all agencies publish in the **Federal Register** a notice of the existence and character of their systems of records. Notice is hereby given that the Department of

Veterans Affairs (VA) is adding a new system of records entitled "Center for Minority Veterans Management Information System—VA (95VAOOM)."

Under section 317 of Title 38, United States Code, VA is required to assess minority veterans' use of VA benefits, programs and services. This new system of records will primarily be used to maintain an automated database containing demographic data on veterans that the Center will use to analyze trends on how VA serves minority veterans, and the extent to which minority veterans are using benefits, programs and services offered by VA. The automated database is used to produce statistical reports that assist VA managers in their efforts to correct any disparities in the care and delivery of services to minority and women veterans.

The automated database is known as the Automated Demographic Data File System (ADDFS). The database includes data on veterans extracted from automated VA benefits data files located at the VA Automation Center, Austin, Texas. Data extracted includes names, social security numbers, claim numbers, race, ethnicity and gender of a randomly selected group of veterans. Similar data will also be extracted from the Department of Defense (DoD) military personnel systems of records in order to supplement VA databases. The ADFS will be configured to interact with current VA automated records systems as well as the DoD military personnel automated records system to produce reports for statistical analyses. Statistical reports will not contain personal identifiers. Reports will be statistical data only, which present information in terms of percentages based on the race, ethnicity and gender of veterans served by VA.

This system of records will also include data pertaining to individual veterans, as well as correspondence, electronic mail and memoranda memorializing conversations with individuals concerning complaints about benefits and services provided to VA beneficiaries based on the race or ethnicity of the beneficiary. The records may also include documents reflecting the processing and investigation of these complaints, and documents extracted from the VA beneficiary's VA records.

The information in this system will be maintained in paper and electronic form. The ADFS will be maintained only in electronic form. Other records in the system may be maintained in either electronic or paper form. Release of information from these records will be made only in accordance with the provisions of the Privacy Act of 1974 for

investigative, judicial and administrative uses. VA has determined that release of information for these purposes is a necessary and proper use of information in this system of records, and that specific routine uses for transfer of this information are appropriate.

DATES AND ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments, suggestions or objections regarding the proposed system of records to the Director, Office of Regulations Management (02D), Department of Veterans Affairs, Room 1154, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420. All relevant material received 30 days after publication in the **Federal Register** (June 3, 1999) will be considered. All written comments will be available for public inspection at the above address, in Room 1158, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. only, Monday through Friday (except Federal holidays). If no public comments are received during the 30-day review period allowed, or unless otherwise published in the **Federal Register** by VA, the new system of records, and the routine use statements included herein are effective June 3, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Anthony Hawkins (OOM), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20420, telephone number (202) 273-6708.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A "Report of Intention to Publish a **Federal Register** Notice of a New System of Records" and an advance copy of the new system notice have been provided to the Chairmen of the House Committee on Government Reform and Oversight and the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs, and the Director, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), as required by provisions of Title 5, U.S.C. 522(r) (Privacy Act), and guidelines issued by OMB (61 FR 6428) (1996).

Approved: April 14, 1999.

Togo D. West, Jr.,
Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

95VA00M

SYSTEM NAME:

Center for Minority Veterans Management Information System—VA (95VA00M).

SYSTEM LOCATION:

Record are maintained at the Center for Minority Veterans' office in VA Headquarters, Washington, DC. VA's Automation Center, 1615 E. Woodward

Street, Austin, Texas 78772, maintains the Automated Demographic Data File System (ADDFS).

CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM:

The system of records will cover the following individuals: (1) VA beneficiaries who contact the Center for Minority Veterans for assistance in addressing concerns about benefits and services provided to them based on the race or ethnicity of the beneficiary. (2) The ADFS will be comprised of demographic data on randomly selected veterans who served in the military from 1975 to the present and whose VA benefits data are currently maintained in an existing VA or DoD automated database.

CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:

The records will include correspondence, electronic mail and memoranda memorializing conversations with individuals. The records also may include documents reflecting the processing and investigation of these complaints, and documents extracted from the beneficiary's VA records in order to assist in responding to the veteran's inquiry. The ADFS will include the names, social security numbers, claim numbers, race, ethnicity and gender of randomly selected veterans currently maintained in existing VA or DoD automated file systems.

AUTHORITY FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE SYSTEM:
38, U.S.C. 317, as amended.

ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND THE PURPOSES OF SUCH USES:

1. Disclosure of specific information may be made to a congressional office, in response to an inquiry from that congressional office made at the request of the individual and concerning that individual's records in this system.

2. Disclosure may be made during reviews by the National Archive and Records Administration during records management inspections conducted under the authority of Title 44, U.S.C. 2904 and 2906.

3. At the initiative of VA, pertinent information may be disclosed to appropriate Federal, State or local agencies responsible for investigating, prosecuting, enforcing or implementing statutes, rules, regulations or orders, where VA becomes aware of an indication of a violation or potential violation of civil or criminal law or regulation.

4. Disclosure may be made to officials of the Merit Systems Protection Board, including the Office of the Special

Counsel, the Federal Labor Relations Authority and its General Counsel or the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, when requested in the performance of their authorized duties, and the request is not in connection with a law enforcement investigation.

5. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) may disclose records in this system of records in proceedings before a court or adjudicative body before which VA is authorized to appear when VA, a VA official or employee, the United States, or an individual or entity for whom the United States is providing representation is a party to litigation or has an interest in such litigation, and VA determines that the use of such records is relevant and necessary to the litigation, provided, however, that in each case, the agency determines that disclosure of the information contained in the records is compatible with the purpose for which the records were collected.

6. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) may disclose records in this system of records to the Department of Justice when VA, a VA official or employee, the United States, or an individual or entity for whom the United States is providing representation is a party to litigation or has an interest in such litigation, and VA determines that the use of such records is relevant and necessary to the litigation, provided, however, that in each case, the agency determines that disclosure of the information contained therein is compatible with the purpose for which the records were collected.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR STORING, RETRIEVING, ACCESSING, RETAINING AND DISPOSING OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:

STORAGE:

The ADFS is stored in a secure area located at VA's Automation Center, 1615 E. Woodward Street, Austin, Texas 78772. ADFS data files are stored on magnetic disk and for archival purposes, on magnetic tape. Other records are stored in the Center for Minority Veterans in VA Headquarters, Washington, DC, or on file servers at VA Headquarters that are utilized by the Center.

RETRIEVABILITY:

Automated records may be retrieved by name, social security number, claim number, race, ethnicity and/or gender. Paper records are retrieved by name.

SAFEGUARDS:

Access to the automated system is via computer terminal; standard security procedures, including a unique identification code and password

combination, are used to limit access to authorized personnel only. Specifically, in order to obtain access to the automated records in this system of records, an individual must have access to VA's automated resources. Access to the ADDFS at VA's Automation Center is limited as follows: An individual may not self-register for this access. Formal documentation of the request for access, signed by the employee's supervisor and approved by the Director, Center for Minority Veterans, is required before an individual may obtain such access. Authorized customers are issued a customer identification code and a one-time password. Access to paper records maintained by the Center for Minority Veterans is limited to VA employees who need to have access to the records in order to perform their agency duties. Generally, file areas are locked after normal duty hours and the Federal

Protective Service or other security personnel protect the offices from outside access.

RETENTION AND DISPOSAL:

Records will be maintained and disposed of in accordance with the records disposal authority approved by the Archivist of the United States, the National Archives and Records Administration, and published in Agency Records Control Schedules.

SYSTEM MANAGER(S) AND ADDRESS:

Director, Center for Minority Veterans, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420.

RECORDS ACCESS PROCEDURES:

An individual who seeks access or wishes to contest records maintained under his or her name or other personal identifier may write, call or visit the system manager.

CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:

See record access procedures above.

RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:

For investigation purposes, information may be obtained from existing VA beneficiary records, employment records; VA beneficiaries, third parties (e.g., relatives or representatives acting on their behalf, such as veterans' service organizations); congressional correspondence and other Federal agencies. For ADDFS, record sources are VA benefits databases as set forth in "58VA21/22—Compensation & Pension, Education and Rehabilitation Records—VA, "38VA23—Beneficiary Identifier and Records Locator Subsystem—VA," and Department of Defense military personnel automated records systems.

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